NORTH-CHINA HERALD

AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

Weekly Edition of the "North-China Daily News"

Registered at the P.O. under Class B.

(Tsz-ling-sing-chi-chow-kan 字林晨刊週刊)

VOL. CCXVIII. No. 3830. SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1941. CHINESE $04 PER ANNUM, $2 PER COPY

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Happy!. . . New!. . . Year! . . .

BY SAPAJOU

Common Sense

Far too often during the present war have lurid pictures been painted of the damage to England's cities since the Germans intensified their aerial attacks following the collapse of France. Ignoring the fantastic lies of Goebbels and his "Ministry of Imagination," which has "reduced" London, Birmingham, Coventry, Sheffield, Liverpool, Southampton and other cities to a "mass of charred ruins"—obviously untrue—a wrong impression often is created by stories of raids on England, which have been handled by non-German news agencies, whose choice of words to give as good a report as possible, has been in many cases unfortunate. For instance Manchester has been "ravaged"—a fearsome word to use when, a few days after the raid, it was announced that casualties were slight and damage not so extensive considering the number of Nazi planes which took part in the attack. The city was "turned into an inferno" and, in the morning was a "charred skeleton," so the news agency in question informed the people in this part of the globe. Naturally a picture of terrible damage—vast sections of the city lying in ruins—at once came to the mind. It was not so. The raid took place on Sunday, December 22 but it was not big enough to stop football in that city on the following Saturday when Manchester United entertained their near neighbours Blackburn at the Old Trafford Ground and handed out a severe drubbing to them to the delight of the city's many thousands of soccer fans. Another city which the Germans have "destroyed" is Sheffield, centre of a vast steel industrial area in Yorkshire. Lurid pictures of the damage to that city have been painted. Its citizens, according to one agency, "dug themselves out of the wreckage" the morning after a fierce raid. This report obviously was highly coloured. Had the damage been as great as the news agency described it, would the city's two football teams still be turning out on Saturday afternoons to bring a little relaxation to some of the hardest worked folk in the country's vast industrial plants? On Saturday Sheffield United still had their ground on which to inflict a defeat on Rotherham, a town which is almost a suburb of Sheffield. Despite the damage at Coventry, which was another of the cities "destroyed" by Goebbels, Highfield Lane, well within the city's limits, is still a popular rendezvous of the Saturday afternoon football crowd. Obviously a refutation of German claims. At Southampton, Birmingham, Newcastle and other centres long ago "destroyed," twenty-two men are still donning shorts, football boots and brightly coloured jerseys to delight thousands of British people week after week. And yet the Germans would have the world believe that Manchester, Newcastle, Sunderland, Birmingham, Coventry and many other large cities are razed to the ground. Common sense says that it is not so. It is not so. A little common sense in the handling and study of reports of German air raids is needed. A sober presentation of facts would be much better than the highly coloured accounts, which this city receives at the present time.

Axis and U.S.

Any doubts which the Axis Powers may express about the policy of the United States may be discounted as sheer bluff. There cannot be any doubt at all, that the American people are behind the stand of the Democratic nations to the last gun and the last bullet. The alternative which lies before them is clear cut. On the one hand there is submission to an aggressive world domination by Germany, which has nothing constructive to suggest save the expansion of German power; on the other there is support of the nation which, with the assistance of the remnants of its allies, is still fighting for the freedom of mankind. The issues which arise must be taken in the order of their importance. The salvation of British and American interests in the Far East may well be considered by the governments concerned to be less vital than the smashing of the head of the serpent which is poisoning the whole of the world's ideals. Nevertheless the reinforcement by the British of the garrison at Singapore and the strengthening of the United States navy in the Philippines should not be overlooked by the advocates of further expansion by Japan. The fact that the British Empire thinks that it can spare men and planes to increase the defence of its Far Eastern possessions is significant. The collapse of resistance in Europe has proved a mixed blessing to the Nazis. It has resulted in a spreading out of their armies which will prove a serious handicap if there is ever a major attack at one particular point. The Nazis, with four million men under arms, are probably weaker at the moment than they were when they could direct the full force of their aggressive weapons against any point they chose. They cannot now. The initiative has passed out of their hands through the very magnitude of their successes. The result is that other Powers, like Japan, must take additional care before they commit themselves in support of aggression which, while doubless benefiting themselves for the moment, may eventually bring down on them the most severe retribution.

On Bloomers

Monday was the anniversary of the death, in 1894, of one of the pioneers who fought for women's rights, as well as being a dress reformer. Amelia Jenks Bloomer who was born at Homer, New York, took up in 1849 the idea, previously originated by Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, of wearing a short skirt with loose trousers gathered round the ankles, with the result that the name "bloomers" gradually became popularly associated with any divided skirt or knickerbocker dress for women. The costume had a certain vogue but not a lasting one for there were few women who could stand up to the derisive welcome which their appearance in such a garb evoked. The chances are that Victorian modesty which was even more pronounced in the United States than in Britain itself robbed her of the chance of making a definite contribution to feminine comfort in clothing. Mrs. Bloomer was apparently not prepared to go the whole hog. Had she done so she might have aroused male indignation to the highest possible pitch, and it is probable that fear of that led her to modify her ideas. It remained for the women of the Georgian period of the last war to go one better, flout Mrs. Grundy and scandalize the males until they became accustomed to the idea of shorts and slacks. Now there are comparatively few women whose wardrobes do not contain such habiliments, and that despite the fact that the singularities of the female form to not generally display such garments to aesthetic perfection. Some do manage to get away with it, but if most of them could stand apart from themselves just for once and study the general effect, it is possible that save where absolutely necessary, as on the farm or in the factory, women's shorts and slacks would long ago have gone into the discard. Nevertheless peace hath her victories no less renowned than war, and if this struggle has only given the English language a few new words, Mrs. Bloomer has the credit of giving it one entirely by herself.

Peace Moves

The peace moves initiated during the Christmas period by the Pope and by certain members of the United States Senate have the common merit of advocating a settlement which is almost identical with that the Allies enunciated at the outbreak of the war. His Holiness was not specific, laying down certain general principles with which all will be agreed save the Nazi and Fascist leaders. He first asked for victory over hatred. Who is the apostle of hatred in the world today? Hitler and his Nazis. Even in his Christmas address to troops, the Fuehrer could not keep the note of hatred silent. The Pope's second point—victory over the lack of trust in international co-operation—again points the finger at the Axis Powers who have consistently treated all obligations as scraps of paper the moment they become inconvenient to their plans of expansion and conquest. His third point, victory over the grim principle that might is right, again is directed to the Powers who have openly preached their belief in force as the final arbiter in all international disputes. And his last point, victory over egotism, might have been specially decided upon to meet the cases of Hitler and Mussolini, two of the greatest egotists in the world today. In voicing the hopes of the Catholic Church His Holiness has expressed succinctly the hopes and aims of those belligerents who are fighting to overthrow tyranny and the rule of treachery. From the other side of the Atlantic comes another move for peace. Senator Millard Tydings set it afoot, and other influential members of the upper chamber of the American legislature have backed him up. Senator Tydings has asked the Administration to ascertain the minimum requirements of the belligerents for a "just peace." He has stated that a peace which does not restore the political sovereignty of Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France, and establish the future of Poland and Czechoslovakia "certainly is impossible." With these aims also the Allies can be in full accord, though perhaps a better definition of what Senator Tydings had in his mind when he referred to Poland and Czechoslovakia would be desirable. The Allies are fighting for a just peace, a peace which will free the world from the shackles which the dictators are attempting to fasten upon it. They are not, as the Nazis have repeatedly averred, fighting to continue a period of injustice to Germany. To this tentative move towards peace the Allies can give their full encouragement, provided always there is no compromise sought with the aims Senator Tydings has set forth.

Under the Shadow

Europe will spend the second Christmas of the war under the shadow of death. Britons have been warned to keep on the alert for an invasion. France is under the threat that the armistice will be repudiated unless the German demands are met. French statesmen will pass the day in suspense, not knowing whether Marshal Petain's reply to the latest demands will be enough to stave off the occupation of the rest of the country. In Italy the people will observe the day under the threat of defeat. On top of their unwillingness to enter the war in the first place have come the débâcles in Albania and Libya, which even the most rigid Fascist censorship has not been able to conceal. In the occupied countries, the day will be observed under the eyes of the German armies and the Gestapo. Festivities will be moderated by the thought that too lavish a display of good things might tempt the conquerors to make still further levies upon what little they have left to the people. In Germany, though the people were led to believe that by today they would be victors, with the war behind them and a great future of world domination just ahead, the celebration will be severely limited by the rationing system, which covers a much wider field than that in force in Britain. In both Germany and Britain plans have been made in many households to hold their celebrations in air-raid shelters, for war does not take into consideration the day of peace and goodwill towards men. Who is responsible for all this? Hitler, the apostle of the gospel of force, who will himself celebrate the day by presenting his friends with autographed photographs of himself. Poor fellows!

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CHINESE POLITICS

Warning to Chinese On Nanking Notes

Chungking, Dec. 26.

A warning to the Chinese populace in Japanese-occupied areas not to accept banknotes issued by the Nanking Central Bank was given by Mr. Tu Yueh-sen, former prominent Shanghai banker and businessman, in a special radio broadcast last night addressed to the people of Shanghai.

Mr. Tu Yueh-sen declared that the notes issued by banks under the control of the Japanese Military Authorities now totalled $2,000,000,000 without adequate security. With these notes, he continued, the Japanese hoped to obtain Chinese National currency for the purchase of foreign exchange or to secure Chinese materials. As soon as the Japanese are driven out of China these notes will be absolutely valueless. On the other hand, he stated, the notes issued by the Chungking Government now totalled only $3,900,000.

In addition to the usual securities, the broadcast continued, the United States has recently loaned $100,000,000 United States' currency, while Great Britain has loaned £10,000,000, for the stabilization of Chinese currency. Soviet Russia meanwhile has also loaned a considerable amount to China.

Declaring that the Chinese Government will not recognize unauthorized currencies and will repudiate them in the future, Mr. Tu Yueh-sen warned the people of China not to accept such notes.—Reuter.

Chungking-Communist Split a "Grave One"

Hongkong, Dec. 27.

The rapidly mounting friction between the Chungking Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party has grown to be the greatest crisis between the two groups since the deterioration of their relations two years ago, Miss Anna Louise Strong, internationally famous American authoress and Communist declared in a signed article appearing in this morning's edition of the "South China Morning Post."

Declaring that relations between the Kuomintang and Communists have been strained almost to the breaking point, Miss Strong declared, "The Communists have asked for additional munitions, food and supplies before carrying out orders from the Central authorities.

The noted authoress and newspaper woman, who has just arrived in Hongkong after a stay in Chungking where she met and interviewed General Chiang Kai-shek and other leading Chungking officials, declared that there had been increasing friction between the two groups over a period of two years owing to the fact that their relations had not been clearly defined.

The situation, she stressed, was now intensely more difficult. The authoress pointed out that Chungking's aim to concentrate Communist troops in the north might permit Japanese forces to withdraw owing to the formation of a buffer state. This, she added, would constitute a danger to Britain and the United States as the Japanese would then be free to send troops southward.—Domei.

Tax Revision Planned By Chungking

Chungking, Dec. 26.

It is reliably learned here that the Ministry of Finance is planning to levy tax duties based on the market price of commodities in future, instead of on the delivered cost as hitherto enforced.

The Government is also planning to enforce a monopoly of the sale and distribution of certain commodities, details of which however have not as yet been announced.

A sum of $50,000,000 has been appointed by the Government for the purchase of foodstuffs in the provinces where there is a food surplus, and such foodstuffs will be transported to Szechuen for public sale.

A further amount of $20,000,000 has been appropriated for the purchase of daily necessaries, to be sold at fixed prices by the Government stores.

It is hoped that these measures will check the continued rise in prices of commodities and foodstuffs.—Reuter.

French Ambassador Leaves Chungking

Chungking, Dec. 28.

M. Henry Cosme, French ambassador in China left for Hongkong by plane this afternoon.—Havas.

Anglo-China Credit Pact Extended

Chungking, Dec. 29.

The Anglo-Chinese export credit guarantee agreement has been extended for an extra six months in order to make available the unused balance for China's purchases according to a special despatch from the London correspondent of the "Central News."

The despatch goes on to refer to that section of the new £10,000,000 British credit to China which concerns the Chinese currency stabilization fund. It is understood that the British and Chinese authorities are studying the necessary practical measures which must be taken to prevent Japan from taking advantage of any situation which may affect the Chinese currency. Steps are also being taken to safeguard the currency from speculators.

Three-cornered negotiation are proceeding at present in Washington between Mr. T. V. Soong, Sir Frederick Phillips and the United States Treasury with a view to coordinating the joint Anglo-American measures to support the Chinese currency with their respective credits.

Discussions regarding details of the new British export credit will soon be initiated in London by the Chinese Ambassador, Dr. Quo Tai-chi, and the Vice-Minister of Finance, Mr. P. W. Kuo, who are at present awaiting details regarding China's requirements to be forwarded from Chungking.

The question is now being studied as to which are the most suitable countries in the sterling area for supplying those materials needed by China, from the point of view of output, cost, the proximity of transport facilities and other factors.—Reuter.

Chengtu Mayor Executed For Food Hoarding

Chungking, Dec. 23.

The execution this morning of Yang Chuan-yu, the former Mayor of Chengtu, was officially announced by the Chinese National Government this morning. The sentence was carried out following a conviction for hoarding foodstuffs, while two accomplices were sentenced to imprisonment. It is further stated that many dye and hardware merchants have also been arrested by the government for hoarding.—Reuter.

Chungking Arrests More Hoarders

Chungking, Dec. 29.

More large-scale arrests have been made as the Chinese Government continues its determined policy of checking hoarding and the rise in commodity prices.

It is learned that 19 cotton yarn merchants have been arrested for speculation and hoarding, while many butchers and meat dealers have also been arrested and fined. A city magistrate has also been arrested for hoarding.—Reuter.

"Ta Kung Pao" Urges U.S. to Use Singapore

Chungking, Dec.

A proposal that the Unites States Navy should move to Singapore to effect a blockade of Japan was made by the influential Chinese daily, the "Ta Kung Pao," in a leading article this morning.

The Chinese paper declared: "If the U.S. Fleet want to be sure of victory they must proceed in the direction of Singapore via the South Pacific, establishing Singapore as their main base and using Manila and Hongkong as advance bases.

"Once the United States Fleet moves to Singapore Japan is doomed," the "Ta Kung Pao" asserted.—Reuter.

Kwangtung Railway Opened

Canton, Dec. 29.

The Canton-Hankow Railway which has been closed to the general public since the Japanese occupation of Canton will partially be opened by Japanese military authorities as from January 1 when a regular train service will be resumed between Canton and Sunkai, north of Canton.

Trains will stop at seven stations between Canton and Sunkai for the benefit of travellers.—Domei.

CARTOONS OF THE DAY

"Evening Standard" London

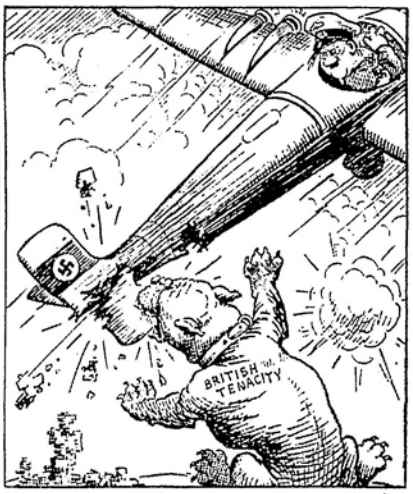
REOPENING OF GERMAN TOURIST SEASON.

"Detroit News" U.S.A.

"WHAT A JAW!"

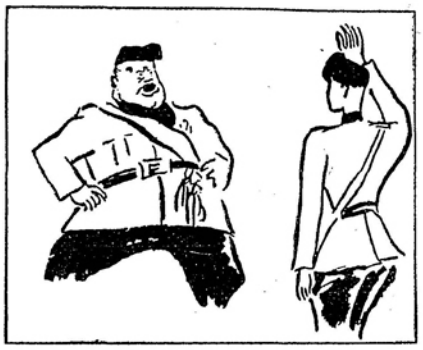
"Providence Journal" U.S.A.

THE SPIRIT OF 1940!



"Kansas City Star" U.S.A.

WHY THE BULLDOG'S A SYMBOL.



"France" Free French in Britain

"Have we beaten the British Fleet?"
"Yes, Duce—in speed . . . "

"Daily Herald" London

THE MAN WHO TAKES THE "F" OUT OF FLYING.

"Detroit Free Press" U.S.A.

"TWO YOUNG LADIES OF RIGA"

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NORTH-CHINA HERALD

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Weekly Edition of the "North-China Daily News"

Single copies $2

Shanghai, China, Korea and Japan	per annum	$84
Hongkong and Macao	"	88
Postal Union Countries	"	108

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS

Single copies 30 cents

Shanghai delivery	per annum	$84
China, Korea and Japan	"	92
Hongkong and Macao	"	110
Postal Union Countries	"	200

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS & HERALD LIMITED

(Incorporated in Hongkong)

Reg. Office: North-China Building, Shanghai

Telegrams: Herald Shanghai

P.O. Box 707 Telephone 11055

Letters should be addressed to the Secretary, North-China Daily News & Herald, Ltd., to whom all remittances should be made payable.

MUSSOLINI CONDEMNED

Dec. 25.

No indictment of a national leader could possibly be more damning than that levelled against Mussolini by Mr. Winston Churchill in his broadcast to Italy on Monday. It is to be hoped that large numbers of Italians heard it, though the restrictions placed upon listening in to British broadcasts, while not so stringent as those of Germany, may have been sufficient to deter many. The Prime Minister denounced Mussolini as the man who against the wishes of the Pope, the King, the Army and the people plunged his country into a war to further Hitler's aims, in the hopes of securing some scraps which the victorious Germany might have accorded him. It is known that the war was unpopular with the masses of the Italians from the outset. It is known that the adventure against the Greeks was undertaken against the sound advice of Italian military experts, and the pinchbeck Cæsar who overrode their opinions has seen his forces, numerically superior to the Greeks, beaten as he never expected them to be. Involved in the Balkans as he now is, he is unable to send the assistance to Graziani for which that commander has been pleading for weeks past. The result is that the much vaunted coming invasion of Egypt, the obliteration of the British forces there, and the seizure of the Suez Canal appear to be fading away like the dream of an ambitious but incompetent man.

Had Mussolini kept out of the war, and devoted his attention to building up his country along the lines which have proved successful he might have gone down in history as a great man who gave his people peace while improving their lot. It may be said for him that originally he tried to keep out of the war. Hitler agreed that at any rate for the time being he should do so, and there is nothing in evidence to show that he asked Mussolini to intervene when he had established German superiority over France last summer. The fact is that Mussolini mazed by the suddenness of the German victory, fancied the war was all over save the shouting, and hurried to get in in time to be able to lay some claim to the spoils. He thought he was backing a certainty, and in his vanity supposed that, had the war ended when he thought it would, he would have achieved much glory for himself and more territory for his country. He completely failed to understand the British, to realize their great determination that come what may they would continue to exist, and that the great Empire which they have constructed should not be torn from them without a struggle unparalleled in the history of mankind. A more criminally stupid piece of statesmanship than Mussolini's entry into the war cannot now be conceived. That is emphasized not because of the successes which the Allies have been securing, but because nothing can be more foolish than to drag a country into war, especially when public sentiment is definitely against it, and against the people to whose aid he fancied he was going.

Does Mr. Churchill's broadcast presage increased onslaughts against Italy? It is believed and hoped that it does. Whatever sympathy exists for a people, whose gracious way of living has endeared them to many, suddenly thrust into war to satisfy the inordinate ambitions of an overweening conceit, it will not permit of the Allies relaxing their efforts to smash the nation which is so obviously the weaker partner of the Axis. The destruction, loss of life and the misery which has already been caused, and which may be expected to follow, are to be directly attributed to the folly of a man who believed he was great, and who indeed might have been had he followed other courses. But his stature has dwindled considerably, even in evil as compared with Hitler, and should the Allies emerge victorious, as there is every reason to believe they will, he will have brought the greatest disaster upon his country that it has experienced in the whole of its history. There is, therefore, much reason in the round condemnation of Mussolini, in which Mr. Churchill has indulged. It may not have any immediate effect, but it is just as well that every possible endeavour should be made to bring home to the Italians as they endure all that they will be called upon to endure that the responsibility for their parlous condition rests on the shoulders of one man—Mussolini.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

Dec. 27.

By piecing together the extracts of the King's broadcast Christmas speech to the Empire carried by different agencies it is possible to obtain a fair idea of the tenor of the whole address. Most notable is a passage which occurred towards the end of the message:—

"We may look forward to the new year with confidence. We have surmounted a grave crisis. We do not underrate the dangers and difficulties which confront us still, but take courage and comfort from the successes our fighting men and allies won at heavy odds on land, sea and air.

"The future will be hard, but our feet are planted on the path to victory and with the help of God we shall make our way to justice and peace."

There is no complacency there, but a quiet courage and sound confidence on the part of the King in the willingness and determination of his subjects, who can never be prouder of their nationality than they are today, to continue to the only end in which they have any interest,—victory for the Empire and its Allies. That is a victory which will bring to those nations, unfortunate enough to have fallen beneath the Nazi heel, their territorial integrity, their independence, and the right to work out their own destinies.

His Majesty reminded his hearers throughout the world that all of them in Britain are now in the front line. He praised the courage and fortitude of his people, and the "splendid fellowship" they displayed in adversity. The past six months have brought it home to the Britons in Britain that they stand shoulder to shoulder with the actual fighting forces. To adapt a quotation to the circumstances

"And gentlemen in England now abed
No longer hold themselves accursed that
they are there;
Nor hold their manhoods cheap."

Rather do those, whose lot has placed them elsewhere, envy their fellow subjects that they cannot stand with them in the same peril. It was more than a pity that conditions did not lend themselves to better reception than was possible on Christmas night. But sufficient was heard of the King's manly voice and the sentiments he uttered to make it manifest that this was no mere official utterance designed to serve the purpose of the present time, but one stating what he and his ministers know to be the truth: "Our feet are planted on the path to victory."

The same note was sounded in the messages of the First Lord of the Admiralty, the new Secretary for War, and the Secretary for Air. Mr. Alexander told the Navy:—"Your efforts have changed the course to victory." Capt. Margesson:—"We all know what we are fighting for. Our cause is just and righteous, and with God's help victory is assured," and Sir Archibald Sinclair:—"We have kept our heads in defeat and we shall keep our heads now in victory, for our task is less than half completed." There is still much to be done and complacence is the last thing which Britons should indulge in, especially that complacence which believes that victory will be obtained without straining every nerve to ensure it.

The Pope's broadcast followed lines which would normally be expected, though perhaps there is some significance in that portion in which he describes how war, once let loose, proceeds on its way "forgetful of the principles of humanity, indifferent to the usages of the conventions of war, and goes to such extremes that an age less troubled than ours will one day note its events as amongst the saddest and darkest of the world's history." That is all too true, and it is hoped that the weight of these remarks will eventually be felt by those two nations to which in varying degree they can be applied with the greatest reason. With his five precepts as the basis of future peace there cannot be the slightest disagreement on the part of Great Britain and her allies. They are in the main what those Powers are fighting for, especially the vindication of the doctrine that force does not stand for right, and the desire for the return of morality amongst the nations. His Holiness appears to have gone as far as he could in the condemnation of that type of evil which afflicts Europe at the moment, and the Allies can take it to themselves that the reproach underlying the Pope's words cannot and does not apply to them. For that reason it is believed that with God's help the good will again prove victorious, and present miseries brought to an end in a better world.

GERMANS IN RUMANIA

Dec. 27.

While there is undoubtedly much in Mr. Winston Churchill's warning that a German invasion of Great Britain is still likely to be attempted, other theatres of possible war need also to be carefully watched. Hitler is keeping his forces inactive far too long, and the probability is that the stories of discontent amongst German troops, because of inactivity on the one hand, and failure to bring the war to the quick victorious issue which was promised them, on the other, may induce him to make moves elsewhere than across the Channel. In this connection an Associated Press dispatch received in New York from Budapest, reporting the entry of large numbers of reinforcements for the German troops into Rumania is not without considerable interest. It was clear that, when German troops first moved into that country, either for the protection of the oilfields, or the training of the Rumanian army, some new mischief was contemplated. According to the report, military experts estimated that within the month 400,000 German troops will have been sent into Rumania, together with full equipment. This has naturally created a great deal of excitement in the Balkans and no small degree of speculation as to what it all means.

According to various schools of thought Hitler is, firstly, planning a move against Greece and Turkey; secondly, preparing for an inevitable showdown with Russia; thirdly, trying to assure civil order in Rumania, and, fourthly, is staging a general game of bluff against Russia. The first, second and fourth seem to contain amongst them the real answer to this latest move. If Hitler's oil resources are dwindling as they are believed to be by some experts, the necessity for going further afield for more supplies suggests that Greece and Turkey are likely to be the recipients of Germany's next attentions, for Turkey stands athwart the road to the much-desired supplies. There is still reason for doubting that Germany is preparing for a showdown with Russia. The time for that does not appear to be ripe and there is still a good deal of uncertainty as to whether Russia could not on the plains of the Ukraine give a better account of herself than she did against Finland. In any event the forces which Hitler would require to use would be so large that he might well hesitate about depleting his strength in other areas for any such purpose. That same argument applies to the suggestion that Hitler may be embarking upon an attempt to outbluff Russia, for nothing could be more dangerous than any such attempt which was not backed up by force in the event of failure.

The whole fact of the matter is that the big German diplomatic offensive of two months ago in the Balkans has failed. The attempt to persuade Bulgaria to abandon neutrality and throw her lot in which the Axis failed. The attempt to drive a wedge between Greece and Turkey in an endeavour to break their alliance met with no better fate. Yugoslavia was induced to enter into an economic agreement with Germany as the result of which she becomes an agricultural country, though the Serbs are anxious to fight if attacked, and the general impression to be formed is that Hitler will now attempt to do by force what his diplomats failed to do by persuasion. Bulgaria which six months ago was definitely pro-German has considerably changed its outlook

Naturally a great deal will depend in the next few months upon the attitude of Turkey. That nation is remaining loyal to her alliance with Greece and her understanding with Great Britain. She most certainly has no desire to see her territory overrun by the German hordes, and her statesmen have announced that there are available two million bayonets to resist any such attempt. But the measure of Axis desperation must be the readiness with which they embark on new ventures, chasing the will-o-the-wisp of victory further and further afield. The more they do this the better the opportunity for Great Britain to indulge in that counterstroke which her leaders have declared to be in preparation. It was the case with Napoleon, of whom Hitler up to the present has been a mere copyist, that the more territory he sought to cover the greater his difficulties. Egypt and Russia saw his defeat. They may still see the annihilation of all Hitler's hopes.

REALISM IN JAPAN

Dec. 28.

For sheer realism of outlook the astonishing article by Colonel Hayao Mabuchi, chief of the Japanese Army Press Section, in the "Nichi Nichi," a resumé of which appears today in another column, would indeed be difficult to beat. Warning the Japanese people against complacency and over-optimism the writer goes on to say "Many people in this country (Japan) seem to have an idea that the conclusion of the tri-partite pact has turned the international trend in favour of Japan, but in my opinion it is steadily drifting towards the other direction." The article deals mainly with the theme that the writer sees no hope of an early collapse by Chungking, and he refers to the help which is being given the Chinese National Government by the United States and Great Britain as permitting of very little hope for the total collapse of that régime unless some radical change occurs in the world situation in the future. In other words the liquidation of the China Incident has been brought no nearer by the entry of Japan into the Rome-Berlin Axis for both Italy and Germany are just as unable to assist Japan now as they were when the agreement was concluded.

Incidentally, Col. Mabuchi takes a very justifiable swipe at Germany when he writes "If Japan has no real strength, any treaties and agreements Japan may conclude with other countries would be nothing more than pieces of waste-paper as has been proved by Germany." It is remarkable that with such men as Col. Mabuchi in Japan there should be others inclined to place a pathetic faith in Hitler's written assurances, despite the fact that he has shown all along that pacts and agreements are designed by him to serve only his temporary purposes and have no permanency about them other than that which suits his convenience. How far the writer of the article is influenced by what has taken place since the tri-partite pact was signed, it is by no means clear. Yet it may be emphasized that in aligning itself with the Rome-Berlin Axis, and subsequently tightening the bond with a formal alliance the Japanese Government, dominated by extremists as it is, has definitely backed the wrong horse.

It only requires a little reflection to show that Hitler has sold Japan a pig in a poke. Japan would obtain nothing from a victorious Germany which she would not then be able to secure for herself. A defeated Germany would mean that Japan could not hope to profit from the tri-partite alliance. It is clear, therefore, that Japan when she was enticed to enter into that agreement was in fact receiving no consideration of any value whatever, and the conclusion to be drawn is that though the Germans were adroit enough to secure Japan's adherence to the Axis the extremists who committed Japan to such a line of action have been completely outwitted. While Col Mabuchi appears to have realized that fact, it is regrettable that the Japanese Press has failed to see the significance of the whole position. Thus the "Nichi Nichi" claims that the tri-partite pact, "through international repercussion, has clarified the Far Eastern situation." Nothing was further from the truth when the extremists at Tokyo signed along the dotted line and nothing is further from the truth now.

Those, who hold with the journal in question, do not take account of Hitler's attitude towards treaties and pacts. The Japanese have no guarantee whatever that he would honour his word, even if he had the opportunity. Col. Mabuchi makes that perfectly plain, and it is the very patent inability of some sections of the Japanese to appreciate that outstanding fact which has led the Japanese Government to adopt the policy vis-à-vis of Germany and Italy that it has. The history of the past few years has demonstrated beyond a peradventure of a doubt that all forms of treachery and duplicity are the main weapons of Hitler's diplomacy. The Japanese have no reason whatever to believe that they are likely to receive at the hands of Hitler anything different from what he has meted out to others. It may be expected that as his situation grows more desperate he will redouble his offers and promises, but the fact has to be borne in mind that Hitler has little to offer and will soon have less.

IS IT A FEINT?

Dec. 28.

From one isolated report a regular spate of despatches are flowing out of the Balkans regarding the movements of German troops, and while in some of the European capitals it is stated that the reports need confirmation, they are so probable that they cannot at this juncture be disregarded. Everything seems to fit together so well. It will be remembered that a few days ago it was reported that Italy had discontinued approximately 100 passenger trains daily, including a dozen which formerly went through the Brenner Pass. Today in another column there is a report that three divisions of German troops entered Italy through the Pass on Sunday and Monday. Simultaneously with that information comes further details of the movement of German troops into Rumania. Considering these developments with what occurred diplomatically last October there is reason to believe that Hitler is now preparing for his drive towards the east. According to neutral correspondents in that month, when Ribbentrop asked Moscow to receive a German trade mission to overhaul Russo-German trade relations, the question was asked as to whether Russia would be prepared to turn the blind eye towards developments in southeastern Europe in return for spheres of influence.

The proposals, it is reported were five in number:—(1) Russia would receive a base in the Dardanelles; (2) Turkey in Asia would be a Russian sphere of influence; (3) Iran and Afghanistan would also be reserved as a Russian preserve: (4) Russia could carve a bit more off Finland without Germany protesting and (5) Germany would undertake mediation between Russia and Japan. If Stalin ever made any reply its nature has not yet been made public. Hitler was not, in fact offering Moscow much. Yet the key to his new world order in southeast Europe is undoubtedly Istanbul. The Italian attack on Greece was mistimed according to Hitler's programme, but that it was to be

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ultimately a part of the Axis's general plan is now quite clear. The German move into Rumania and an Italian invasion of Greece at Hitler's time were destined to create a pincer-like pressure upon Greece and Turkey in Europe. Greece was to be overrun and reduced in mutilated form to an Italian protectorate, while Turkey would be driven out of Europe into Asia minor. This it was believed last October could only materialize with Russian consent, and the real mystery in the situation is the attitude the Kremlin is likely to adopt.

The advance of substantial German forces into Rumania constitutes just as much a threat to Russia as it does to Turkey and Greece. It is just as easy for the German forces to strike into the Ukraine through Bessarabia as it is for them to move southward. That fact is perfectly well realized by the Russians who are reported to have between twenty and thirty divisions in Bessarabia, obviously sent there as a precaution against all emergencies. The times afford a favourable opportunity for Hitler to endeavour to attain his dream concerning the Ukraine. With little more snow to be expected for the next few months, and the ground frozen hard, no better an opportunity could possibly be offered for the use of mechanized armies against the Russians. At the same time it is necessary to strike southward now instead of waiting until the heat of summer brings with it all the inconveniences and difficulties to be expected in southeast Europe.

The conclusion to be drawn is that Hitler is preparing to make his long expected stroke in that area, but the possibility of all this being merely a feint to distract British attention from whatever preparations he is still making for an invasion of Britain must not be overlooked. Hitler is a devout admirer of Frederick the Great, and he when giving secret instructions to his generals wrote:—

> "Animals have only one method of acting, but intelligent men have inexhaustible resources....Their object is to hide your design and catch the enemy in a trap. The contrary to what you intend must be feigned. If you open the campaign your troops march and countermarch so that the enemy cannot discover where you are assembling. If you are about to capture a city, you encamp in a place which makes him fearful of the fate of two or three cities at the same time. If he hastens to one flank, you throw your full force on another...."

That Hitler has taken that advice to heart the history of the war up to the present clearly indicates. He may be preparing for his drive in search of more oil, or he may not, while if after all it is merely a feint it will not succeed so far as Great Britain is concerned, though it cannot be gainsaid that as a move towards bringing some pressure to bear upon Russia there is more than a little to be said for it.

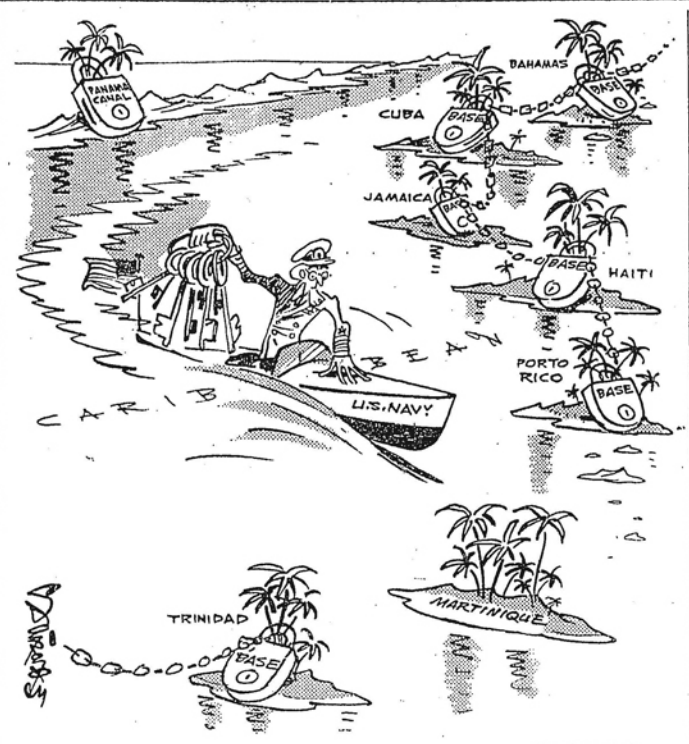
THIS PEACE TALK

Dec. 30.

At the moment what appears to be a minor peace movement which may increase in importance is under way in the United States amongst certain congressmen not all of whom are isolationists. Thus Senator Vandenberg prominent amongst the peace advocates suggests that the former U. S. ambassadors to France and Great Britain should be called before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to express their views on the European situation, while Senator Burton K. Wheeler expresses his opinion that Britain should consider a "just peace." "As much as we hate Hitler," he is reported to have said. "As much as we doubt his word, it would seem to me far better for England and the United States to work out peace which will save the British Empire and save American boys from being slaughtered upon foreign battlefields." It can be said at once that Great Britain and her Allies are ready at all times, and will continue to be so, to negotiate a just peace, but that it is necessary to understand exactly what that phrase must mean. Any peace which leaves the territory and inhabitants of free peoples in the blood-stained grip of the Nazis cannot possibly be a just one. Any arrangement which permits Hitler to profit in the slightest from his long planned aggressions must necessarily be unjust. Any peace which leaves the Nazis in a position at some future date to resume their buccanneering policies, which have brought such distress to Europe, can be neither just nor wise.

Those are facts which have to be faced. The British Empire cannot be saved by patching up some sort of armistice,—for that is all it would amount to so long as the Germans are of their present frame of mind. That can only be done by the destruction of the evil forces which threaten democracy, at the cost of the blood, sweat and tears which Mr. Churchill has promised the Empire it will involve. There is no one not brought up in an atmosphere of glorification of war who would not wish that the present mad strife should be stopped at the earliest possible moment, but it must be remembered that any peace which left Hitler in possession of his ill-gotten spoils would in fact amount to an abject surrender by Great Britain. That is something with which no Briton worthy of his salt will for one moment agree. Where Senator Wheeler and those others who think like him are wrong is in failure to understand the seriousness of the issue at stake. This has long ceased to be merely a war between nations. It has become enlarged to a struggle to the death between the forces of good and evil, between those who would impose serfdom upon the rest of the world for the sole benefit of the German people,—the super-superior race, save the mark!—and those who have not the slightest intention of submitting to any such process. When such clear cut issues are involved anything in the nature of a compromise which would give the forces of evil an opportunity to prepare for another war would be nothing but arrant stupidity.

What sort of peace could now be predicated upon the word of a Hitler? Senator Wheeler provides the answer himself in his admission of distrust of the man. The first essential to a just peace is the final elimination of those men whose insatiable ambitions, whose declared intention to conquer the whole world, have brought about this grievous tragedy. Once that is done the road will be cleared to a just peace. Even then that can be assured not only by equitable adjustments all round, but by taking care that neither Germany nor Italy shall ever again be in a position to endeavour to impose their will upon their neighbours. Then it will be possible to establish justice, not that of the Franco-German armistice which has been shown to be predatory in its terms, but a justice in which the rule of law shall again be restored, in which good faith shall again prevail amongst the nations and the narrow nationalisms which have arisen since the last war finally done away with. Those who advocate any other sort of peace at this juncture are in fact playing Hitler's game and betraying the cause of Great Britain and her Allies. They did not lightly take up the sword, nor will they lightly lay it down. In fact they dare not until all they are fighting for has been completely vindicated, and the rights of men and nations fully freed from danger of suppression.



BY SAPAJOU

His Inland Sea

IRISH NEUTRALITY

Dec. 30.

The thoroughly controlled German and Italian press, when warning the United States that they risked being involved in the war should their ships carry U. S. goods to ports in Eire, threw the whole question of the neutrality of that country into the highest possible light. Eire, which clings with typical stubbornness to the belief that she is able to remain outside this war, does so by adhering to an idea of neutrality which subjects her to precisely the same blockade as the rest of the British Isles. Thus while a warlike act is being perpetrated against her, while her rights as a neutral are being disregarded by the enemy, Mr. de Valera insists upon the fiction that Eire is keeping out of the war. While it is a fact that Eire has not been subjected to other military or naval action on the part of the enemy, it is perfectly clear that she is being deprived of her rights by hostile action. Were either Germany or Italy able to establish a real blockade Eire would be well within her rights in demanding that her own trade should go unhindered, even if it meant submission to an enemy system of navicerts such as that which Great Britain applies to other neutrals.

What is so pathetic about it all is that Mr. de Valera apparently believes that his present attitude would save Eire from being absorbed into the Germanic system which Hitler obviously contemplates in the event of the victory which is being denied him. Doubtless he has received assurances to that effect from the German emissaries in Dublin. Hitler would certainly not hesitate to make such promises if there were anything to be obtained from them, but that any statesman should, in view of all that has happened, be inclined to place any trust in them, is something which it is more than a little difficult to understand. On the face of it, therefore, the alleged neutrality of Eire is a miserable fiction, for though she has not been subjected to bombing from the air or such other action as the enemy could take, the fact remains that Eire is not being treated as a neutral but as a part of the British enemy.

There is another aspect of the matter which is not without interest. This is the second instance within a few weeks in which the enemy press, obviously at the dictation of their governments, have presumed to threaten war should the United States take a certain line of action. One of the ideas of which the enemy cannot divest themselves is that these threats of war are at all likely to divert Washington from any policy which it might decide to adopt. The people of the United States may be sentimentalists, but on the other hand they are also realists, and they view the issues, which the aggressive Powers have raised, in such a light that the utterance of threats by the enemy press is not likely to have more than an irritating effect in the western hemisphere. In this connection it needs to be emphasized that there is no official confirmation of the reports that the United States Government intended to send U. S. ships to Eire, and the possibility that they were merely enemy propaganda designed to give their press a chance to "make faces" at the United States cannot altogether be disregarded.

There is also the likelihood that it was all planned for the purpose of keeping Eire toeing the line which Mr. de Valera has so facilely done up to the present. Obviously should he do anything to displease the enemy they would increase their warlike effort against Eire, and resort to attacks similar to those which Britain is enduring. Restoration of the treaty ports in Eire which the United Kingdom relinquished only a few years ago would mean a great contribution to the defeat of the blockade which the enemy are endeavouring to set up, and nothing would more greatly embarrass them than some such return for the duration of the war. Mr. de Valera has set his face definitely against any such thing, but it is by no means clear that by doing so he will succeed in keeping his country out of the war, Eire still presents an attractive place wherein to establish aerodromes from which to attack Britain, and should it serve the enemy's purpose not all the good behaviour of Mr. de Valera would deter them from attempting to establish them.

AMERICA WARNED

Dec. 31.

Shortly after the "Washington Post" urged President Roosevelt to give the United States a strong lead for increased aid to Britain, the Chief Executive broadcast to the nation a speech which history may show to be an epoch-making one. It was a plain straightforward statement of the issues involved in the present war and the danger to the western hemisphere should the unholy tri-partite alliance succeed in achieving the ambitions which inspired it. Furthermore it was a direct reply to the talkers of peace in Washington:—"It can be asserted properly, and categorically that the United States has no right or reason to encourage the talk for peace until the day shall come when there is a clear intention on the part of the aggressor nations to abandon all thought of dominating, or conquering the world." President Roosevelt has told Senator Wheeler and those who think like him that the time for peace has not yet come, and cannot until the success of democracy is assured.

The determination of President Roosevelt that the United States shall never be called upon to fight a last ditch war against the enemies of democracy indicates his complete appreciation of the issues involved in this struggle and the manner in which the interests of his great nation can best be served. That is obviously by supplying Great Britain and her Allies with all the material assistance they desire. With the enormous resources of Great Britain backed by those of the United States, with the determination of the British and their Allies to continue this fight until the forces of evil have been beaten to the ground, there cannot be the slightest doubt as to the outcome of this war. Great Britain will not surrender into slavery, and cannot be forced into it so long as she has the means of continuing resistance, and that being the case the best insurance for the peace of the United States is provided along the lines the President has indicated.

Mr. Roosevelt's warning to his fellow citizens needs to be engraved upon the minds of all who treasure the principles for which Great Britain and the Allies are fighting in Europe. They are the final rampart against the spread of loathsome ideologies which animate the aggressor Powers, and should they be swept away,—as it is firmly believed they will not,—the people of the United States would have to face just as fierce a struggle as that which is toward in Europe. That the President emphasized with no mincing of words:—"I make the direct statement to the American peoples that there is far less chance of the United States getting into the war, if we do all that we can now to support the nations who are defending themselves against Axis attack, than if we acquiesce in their defeat, submit tamely to an Axis victory and await our turn to be the object of attack in another war later."

That sums up the whole American position in this war. The actions of Germany, Italy and Japan have made it quite clear what the rest of the world has to face,—the abolition of national independence and the enslavement of the whole world, first perhaps to the parties to the tri-partite alliance and finally to the Germans alone. But this broadcast of the President's is something more than a mere exposé of possibilities. It is a direct and uncompromising answer to all the sabre rattling in which the Axis has been indulging with regard to the United States. It is an asseveration that the United States are not to be browbeaten and that in the defence of democracy they will go to whatever lengths are necessary to secure victory. Were Great Britain and her Allies to fail,—and that is inconceivable,—the turn of the western hemisphere would not be long in coming, and it would stand alone against a world completely organized against it. That the President has told his people, and it is believed that they will understand the lesson which he has read out to them. If they do, and they act accordingly, the fate of the Axis Powers will never be in doubt.

HOW AND WHEN

Dec. 31.

There is no question now whether the United States will or will not aid the Allies in the victorious prosecution of the war. The only element of debate is how and when. In the mistaken idea that it is possible for any one country or even continent to isolate itself from the rest of the world by a series of enactments which are binding upon its own nationals and can be disregarded by anybody else, the United States have shackled themselves by various acts which, as President Roosevelt emphasized, can only result in their fighting for existence, should Britain be beaten. Nazi and Fascist propaganda is busy creating a smoke screen to conceal the fact that the United States realizes full well the implications of the struggle which is going on in Europe and bids fair to extend to the Pacific. The old argument of non-payment of war debts is being fished out of the obscure cupboards in which it had long been laid to rot. Great Britain's warnings to America that economic assistance is urgently needed if the Nazi menace is to be

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done away with before Europe has been so greatly crippled that it is to be a drag on the world's future progress, have been twisted to mean that the Empire is whining for assistance, in order that it should not be snuffed out by Hitler's fingers. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The British Empire possesses enormous resources which have so far barely been touched. To meet cash requirements from the United States in payment for goods delivered, there are still ample amounts of securities and bullion. The discussions now taking place in Washington and New York are less concerned with whether the United States will give every economic assistance in their power, than with how and when this assistance shall be given. The emphasis laid on the discussions by both sides is not whether assistance *should* be given, but on the methods by which it should be given. The reason for certain apparent discrepancies between the pictures of the strength of the Allies presented in the countries under the domination of the Nazis and that presented in the United States is thus obvious. For similar reasons a general in command in the front line will emphasize to his commander-in-chief his weak points rather than his strong ones, when he wishes for reinforcements. At the same time he would not dream of letting the enemy know where an attack might be successfully made; to the enemy he emphasizes his strong points. So the Allies point out to the United States where they can be most swiftly and satisfactorily assisted, while to the enemy they present a defence which defies penetration. The pictures presented in the two continents of Europe and America may to the untutored eye seem different; in fact they are, however, merely different aspects of the same picture.

When Nazi propaganda depicts the Empire on bended knees before other nations, pleading for aid like a condemned man, it does more service than disservice to the Empire's cause. It emphasizes probably better than the pride of the Empire would allow it to do for itself, the peril in which the democracies not yet actively involved in the war find themselves, and the urgency for them to do something to save themselves, rather than rely upon the unsupported efforts of the already badly mauled Allies in Europe. It points the question: what is going to happen to us if Britain falls? And it suggests the answer: we shall have to face the same kind of thing. The boldness of this Nazi propaganda is likely to defeat itself, as it has done in the past. It brings to the forefront of the American national consciousness the vital fact that, if the Allies are defeated, the United States will soon be forced to make the same sacrifices which are being made daily by the people of Britain; to have their homes bombed and their children buried under heaps of bricks and mortar. It suggests the question to the people of the United States: would it not be better to make some sacrifices now, before we are attacked, than to wait to make bloodier sacrifices when we are attacked?

The successful resistance against the most determined assaults which Hitler has so far managed to make has caused a revulsion of feeling all over the world. Where previously it was believed that the Germans were bound to win, it is now conceded that they may well be defeated. The Nazi war machine has been proved to be vulnerable, while the Fascist war machine seems to have been built for some other purpose altogether than war. When seriously challenged, as it has been in Greece, Albania, and Libya, it has collapsed. Hope has been stirred when previously only despair could reign. Nations faced with a future of serfdom can now look forward, even though through a thick mist, to a return to freedom. The efforts of Goebbels have misfired again. The darker he paints the condition of his enemies, the more he encourages free nations to assist them.

A RETROSPECT

Jan. 1.

Looking back over the past year there must be a feeling of thanksgiving on the part of Britons that they have come through it so well. Last New Year's Day was passed more or less in ignorance of what the enemy was able to do, and it was not until well into the year that it was realized that a new concept of war had come into being which caught Great Britain and France unprepared. Of the magnitude of the disaster which befell the latter country history will probably be better able to deal than contemporary writers. Suffice it to say that there is nothing but the deepest sympathy with the French in their bitter lot, and a firm determination by the Allies that their victory shall redeem France from the bonds of slavery. They were indeed black days during which the British forces had to be extricated from France and the Germans established themselves along the whole of the northern and western coasts of France. But while they were gloomy, the British, and those continuing to fight by their side refused to give up hope, determined that the German success should not be the end of the war and ready to make every sacrifice necessary to ensure that the good cause should triumph.

Then through the long months a change came over the situation. British strength increased daily, the amount of aid coming from the United States commenced to make a favourable impression on the balance of power. The whole of Britain was mobilized into one huge war effort and daily men, women, and even children have been paying the high price for the grand privilege of being British. Although the German bombing of Britain has been severe and indiscriminate, the R.A.F., with due observance of those canons of war which the enemy so callously ignores, have struck mighty blows back on German military objectives and have seriously damaged the enemy's war production potential. The struggle has been carried to Italy whose leader apparently fancied all he was doing when he attacked France was entering into an eleventh-hour walkover. He has been sadly disappointed. He faces a long struggle for which his country is as economically ill-prepared as her armies are apparently to fight.

The glorious stand by the Greeks in resisting and beating off the Italian invasion, the striking successes which the British forces have gained in northern Africa all go to show that the enemy forces are by no means as invincible as their leaders would have the two nations believe, and even now German troops are proceeding to Albania to stiffen the Italians and may also soon be expected in Libya. At sea the blockade continues to maintain its stranglehold upon enemy economics, and while the German blockade of the British Isles is presenting a more serious problem than during the last war, there is nothing in the way of evidence to show that it will have any decisive effect on the outcome of the struggle or that Great Britain will not ultimately succeed in bringing it under control. It is because of such considerations as these that His Majesty the King was able to tell his subjects throughout the Empire and the world at large that Britain and her Allies had set their feet upon the path of victory. A calm unbiassed study of all the facts suggests that that is indeed the case, and that whatever small degree of uncertainty may have existed following the débâcle in France has now been dissipated.

Thus democracy enters upon the New Year full of confidence, of faith in their cause and a justifiable hope for ultimate victory. Fortunately, perhaps, it is impossible to forcast the future but the Allies have shown that they are prepared to withstand the heaviest blows with a courage and *moral* which has amazed the world. There are signs that such is not the case in the enemy country where indications of weakening are already reported. On a general balance things may be said to be much more favourable now than they were six months ago. This will undoubtedly hearten the Allies to continue their fight through this year and the next and even the one after that if necessary. There will be no misgivings if this proves to be the case. They will have nothing of defeat realizing the horror which would be inflicted on the world if the forces of evil were permitted to triumph, and they will march on to victory armed with the knowledge that their cause is just.

A PEACE PROPOSAL

Jan. 1.

It was inevitable that the Axis Powers should have been annoyed by President Roosevelt's forthright assessment of the world situation, and his declaration in favour of continuing to aid Britain and her Allies to the utmost. Comment in Germany has not yet been made, in Italy the "Giornale d'Italia" burbles something about the tolerance of the Axis Powers, and endeavours to suggest that Roosevelt is merely pretending that America is menaced by the Axis. The world knows only too well that she is, the investigations of the Dies Committee and other American organizations have laid bare the whole German scheme with regard to the western hemisphere, and for the Italian newspaper to endeavour to paint any other picture is to insult the intelligence of people who are able to recognize facts when they are seen. The "Yomiuri Shimbun" dismisses President Roosevelt's belief that the Axis Powers are not going to win this war as "utterly irresponsible" indicating that frame of mind in which the wish is father to the thought.

In the United States there is a general welcome of the presidential utterance, though Senator Wheeler still persists in his peace talk with the publication of an eight-point basis for what he considers a just peace. His ideas are to say the least interesting, even if they appear in some instances to contradict themselves. For example it is difficult to reconcile Point 1, calling for the restoration of Germany's 1914 boundaries with autonomy for Poland and Czechoslovakia, with Point 3 providing for the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine to France. Point 2, restoration of the independence of France, Holland, Norway, Belgium and Denmark is obviously perfectly acceptable to Britain and her Allies. The restoration of former German colonies might not commend itself to Japan, though doubtless the Germans would again like to be allowed the opportunity of redemonstrating to the world their complete inefficiency as colonizers as witness the case of the Hererros. Hitler could never be trusted to adhere to the provision calling for the protection of all racial and religious minorities. With regard to the remaining three points,—internationalization of the Suez Canal, no indemnities or reparations, and the limitation of armaments little need be said. The wresting of Abyssinia from the Italians will automatically solve the problem of the Canal, which only really arose when Mussolini established his gimerack empire.

Roughly speaking what Senator Wheeler proposes is that Hitler shall relinquish his spoils in Europe for the return of his colonies. That must remain wholly unacceptable to Britain so long as Hitler or any other man of his kidney governs Germany. It would be the height of foolishness to return them, giving the Germans an opportunity to reestablish bases for future action against the world. It is plain that what Senator Wheeler proposes is a compromise peace, an attempt to reconcile the interests of good and evil, a shoddy patchwork which would solve nothing and only lead to further trouble. There can be no doubt about it. It is recognized by the British and their Allies, as it is recognized by President Roosevelt and the majority of the people he leads, that the only permanent solution guaranteeing the peace of the world is a thorough lesson to the aggressor states that their schemes for the subjugation of the world by force will not be tolerated. There can be only one issue to this war and that is the destruction of the forces of evil. To endeavour to seek a compromise leaving Hitler and Mussolini in power, would indeed be supping with the devil. The British and those fighting beside them owe it to themselves, to the world at large and the generations to come that this holy war shall be prosecuted to the complete and utter defeat of those wretched criminals who brought it about. There can be no compromise, no appeasement now, even if Hitler would accept Senator Wheeler's terms. He is fortunately, unlikely to do so. He would in fact admit defeat if he did, for nothing short of the complete subjugation of Europe could now amount to anything else. The peace of the world will not be achieved by territorial adjustments such as is suggested. The issues are far greater, for mankind has to decide, and in deciding make great sacrifices, whether all that is good shall be preserved to the world, or whether it shall be allowed to sink into iniquity blacker than any that has prevailed since history began.

SHANGHAI NOTES

A Retirement

Tuesday saw the retirement from business of Mr. C. R. (Chippers) Shaw, after a residence in Shanghai of nearly 45 years. He read his first "North-China Daily News" as far back as March 26, 1896, and has been a staunch supporter of the paper ever since. First in commerce with Dyce & Co., Mr. Shaw later started as a sharebroker, and for the last twelve years has been an exchange broker. Those who may not have met him in the course of business will probably best remember him as a contributor to the correspondence columns of this journal. As a controversialist his letters were always welcome not only because of the pertinence of his writing and gracious style but also because of his fine wit. Hitting hard at times it can never be said that he went out of his way to give offence, for that is entirely alien to his nature. It is fortunate that he is not leaving the Far East, and it is to be hoped that as opportunity offers he will take advantage of the leisure which is now his, and continue writing letters to the editor for which there will always be room. It is with certainty that this journal is voicing the wishes of all who know him that the hope is expressed that he will have very many years in which to enjoy his retirement.

AROUND THE WORLD

Pause At Bardia

At the time when Marshal Graziani was pushing his way cautiously into Egypt, a parallel was drawn between his strategy and that of the Senussi during the last war, when they were persuaded by the Turks to launch an offensive against Egypt as a distraction for the British forces. General Sir John Maxwell, who was in command in Egypt, was not as well prepared as General Sir Archibald Wavell to resist an invasion, but at the same time he had only a few thousands of men to meet, under the capable command of an Iraqi soldier, Jafar Pasha el Askeri. Nevertheless it was at that time deemed advisable for the British to withdraw from Sollum and even Sidi Barrani, as they did in this war; though strictly speaking, they should not have had the necessity for doing so on the last occasion forced upon them had the Italians in Libya not remained behind their fortifications and taken no steps to suppress the Senussi, until the British had broken the back of their attack. The difficulties which faced the small British force which at that time scored that local success were greater than those which face General Wavell at the present moment, since the district was less developed and the roads much poorer than they are now. This does not lessen the fact, however, that the difficulties facing any offensive force in that country are still formidable. The slowness of Marshal Graziani's advance was attributed to this, and there is no reason to suppose that the difficulties have in any way been diminished by the fact that it is now the British who are advancing and the Italians retreating. The British will probably have the advantage of the long preparations made by Marshal Graziani to safeguard his lines of communications, though doubtless much of his constructive work was destroyed during the Italian rout, even though the speed of that débâcle may have taken everybody but those who had planned it by surprise. General Wavell has also the additional advantages of command of the sea and the air, by both of which means he can supply advanced troops. Even these advantages cannot, however, take anything from the glory of his victory, or the magnitude of the disaster suffered by the Italians. The remarkable capture of more than 30,000 Italian and native troops with such small losses and the no less remarkable gain of territory at such speed in country where concealment is almost impossible will be regarded by military historians of the future as a great exploit. Much of the value of this victory might easily be lost by trying to do too much, without pausing sufficiently to consolidate the gains already made. With the Italians in Bardia bottled up, under fire from the navy from one side, and the army from the other, and the Royal Air Force from overhead, their prospects are anything but bright. In the meantime there have been hints of another British move from Siwa towards Jerabub, from which place runs a road to which strategists attach considerable importance as a means of turning the Italians at Tobruk, or at any rate making it extremely risky for them to move troops along the coast road for the relief of Bardia. Those who are acquainted with the country, however, are not enthusiastic about the prospects of such a movement. They believe that it would be fraught with difficulties as great as would a frontal assault along the coast. Considering the hardships General Wavell's army has already overcome, such a turning movement can by no means be considered outside the bounds of possibility. Should it be attempted, it would have to be with the same vigour and enterprise as was the original counter-attack.

German "Victory"

Dr. Ley, Reich Organization Minister, has broken out in two places. He has issued a New Year proclamation and has written a leading article for the "Voelkischer Beobachter" both of which are interesting in their way. In his proclamation,—apparently issued so early to get ahead of *Der Fuehrer*—he says:—

"On the occasion of ushering in the new year of 1941, I send you all sincerest good wishes and thank you for your untiring efforts and unselfish labour.

"Now is not the time to speak my words. We tie our helmets more tightly and march in unchanging obedience and iron discipline according to the will and order of our glorious Fuehrer. We obey, we work, we fight, we believe, and we win. The old glorious and fateful year 1940 is ending.

"We challenge the new year 1941 and beg Fate to give us strength and health. We will do the rest. Political soldiers of the Fuehrer, march into the great and glorious future.

"Long live our people, long live Germany, long live our Fuehrer. Heil Hitler.

Then according to the German official news agency Dr. Ley in this article points out that "England, despite its stubborn perseverance, and desperate efforts is not in a position to alter the victory which Germany has already won." It is important to note the claim that Germany has already achieved victory for the worthy doctor declares to his readers "You will be better off than ever before after this victory." So having heard twice that Germany wins the people will doubtless be looking for those rare refreshing fruits which have been promised them throughout their years on short commons, during which their butter has been turned into guns. They will obtain no such things, for the end of the war is still far ahead, and Germany has not, and will not achieve victory. Thus as the months go by and no additional food comes to them the German people will again realize that what the German leader has been doing is merely to tell them another of those taradiddles with which they have so frequently been regaled. The plain fact of the matter is that though the Germans have gained successes they have not achieved victory, not in August, nor September nor now. The quiet confidence which emanates from Britain has been growing considerably in recent weeks, and the certainty of final success is such that there is now no longer any question of "if" but merely "when."

Point of View

A MEMBER of a London bomb-disposal squad, lowered carefully into the crater of an unexploded German bomb, sat down calmly on the bomb and began removing its fuse. Suddenly he yelled:

"Get me out of here! Pull me up!"

His colleagues hauled him up in record time and ran for shelter. The man, however, remained at the edge of the crater, pointed downward and exclaimed: "Look at that big rat down there!"—"P.M."

American Howlers

"Macushla" is a lovely word. I like the "hush" in it.

Fast music makes me dizzy. Slow music makes my feet and brain feel ticklish.

Silver money is jolly. It dances and hums. Paper money crackles like dead leaves.

I don't like to listen to those ladies on the radio who cry into their songs and sing low down. It hurts my ears.

My Granny's hair is soft and white like clouds. My Granny's arms are very safe. She holds me tight and wide with love.

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NEWS FROM THE INTERIOR

Japanese Closing Routes

Japanese Army Press Section Chief Reviews Year's Warfare; Chinese Moral Said Lowered

Canton, Dec. 27.

COMPLETE closure of various supply routes to Chungking, and losses amounting to approximately 150,000 dead, were among the highlights of Japanese successes in operations in South China, stated Colonel Sama, chief of the Press Section of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces to South China, in a communique released today reviewing the past year's activities.

Stoppage of vital supplies and war material to Chungking by these Japanese operations on land, sea, and air have had an important effect in lowering the enemy moral with Chungking troops showing less fighting spirit in engagements with the Japanese, he stated.

The communique emphasized the part played by Japanese forces in closing up the route for supplies to Chungking by way of French Indo-China, following the peaceful conclusion of a Franco-Japanese agreement, permitting Japanese troops to despatch on September 23, crack units into French Indo-China territory.

Acquirement of bases in French Indo-China exerted tremendous pressure against Chungking, and with stoppage of materials and equipment this move virtually spelt the collapse of anti-Japanese resistance and influence in south-west China, the review said.

Nanning Withdrawal

Only then did the Japanese military authorities withdraw their troops from Nanning, as the stationing of forces in Indo-China made their presence in that city entirely unnecessary, the communique declared.

In June, the report stated, the flow of supplies to Chungking was halted by the action taken by the Japanese forces. Troops concentrated on June 22 in the vicinity of Shumchun on the Sino-British border, and on June 25 on the Sino-French frontier, effectively stopped supplies passing through these areas.

Spring activities by the Japanese included mopping up operations. These commenced at the beginning of March, when the Japanese swept Hainan Island, the Chungshan district, and the Chaochow and Swatow areas, completely of Chungking stragglers.

By the end of May, continued the report, 20,000 Chungking troops, who had managed to filter into northern Kwangtung Province, where previously there were no anti-Japanese movements, were smashed and dispersed by the Japanese.

Winter operations were featured by two great crushing movements by the Japanese, which completely nullified large-scale Chungking preparations for a winter offensive, and laid the foundation for the successful establishment of the Nanking Government.

Great Offensive

Japanese forces ushered in the year 1939 by launching a great offensive against Chungking troops under the command of General Yu Hanmin in the vicinity of Yungyun and Yingtak, succeeding by successive pincer movements in trapping and liquidating scores of thousands of trapped Chinese soldiers.

Shortly after, Gen. Chiang Kai-shek's forces attempted to recover Nanning, and to this end marshalled several hundred thousand soldiers from Kwangsi and Szechuen to press on Kunlungwan and Kaofengai.

However, said the communique, Japanese forces patiently waiting almost a month for the appearance of the Chinese, commenced a big push crushing these vast hordes and again using clever enveloping movements.

In conclusion, the report pointed out, activities of Japanese Army aircraft could not be minimized, as air units cooperated with complete success with land forces. Aerial bombings of such stragetic points as Shaochow, Kwelin, and Liuchow were of considerable value, the review declared.—Domei.

Kwangtung Cities Heavily Bombed

At a Japanese Army Air Base, Dec. 28.

Following up fierce bombing raids on the previous day, Japanese army aircraft today repeatedly bombed Lungmoon, Yuntam and Fatkong in south-western Kwangtung.

In the neighbourhood of Lungmoon, bridge construction materials were blown up by the Japanese raiders. Forty junks fully loaded with military supplies were bombed and sunk at Yuntam.

War materials stored at several places in the vicinity of Fatkong were also destroyed by Japanese army air men before returning to their bases safely.—Domei.

Japanese Start Coastal Blockade

Canton, Dec. 27.

With the commencement on Christmas Day of the blockade of South China Coast ports announced by Vice-Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese China Seas Fleet, on December 23, Japanese warships and naval planes began operations directed against the Chungking Government's supply routes and harbours, it was announced by the Press Section of the Japanese South China Seas Fleet.

Reconnaissance and bombing flights were made by Japanese naval planes against many South China coast ports, including Shuitung, Tinpak, Youngkong, Fengtow, and Kwonghoi, and "severe damage, was inflicted on warehouses filled with war materials for General Chiang Kai-shek," the Japanese Navy communique states.—Reuter.

Fighting Near Hangchow

Hangchow, Dec. 27.

In an effort to crush the bulk of troops of the Chungking 192nd Division infesting the hilly area centring on the Hangchow-Kashing-Huchow triangular zone, four Japanese units on Tuesday closed in on their encircling operation to a considerable extent, a belated war despatch reaching here disclosed.

During engagements Chungking troops abandoned 142 dead on the battlefield while the Japanese captured 162 prisoners.

Loot seized by the Japanese included one trench mortar, 100 shells of trench-mortar ammunition and various other arms and ammunition. —Domei.

Kweiyang Hospital Damaged by Fire

Kweichow, Dec. 2.

Two hundred orphans who have just arrived here from Hongkong; are some of the number in which Mme Chiang Kai-shek is interested. They were three months on the way and appear to be in good physical condition. Relatively cold weather overtook them here and the International Red Cross was called upon to furnish them with additional bedding. This, fortunately, they were able to do from the remnants of the Lord Mayor's Fund shipments.

A midnight fire has destroyed a large portion of the Kweichow Provincial Hospital, outside the Small West Gate. The thatched roofs of the temporary hospital structures burned brilliantly so that the hills a mile away were well illuminated. A new stove had been built of masonry against a wattle partition and the heat set the bamboo on fire at a time when servants were few. Only one patient was burned seriously and he would not have lived in any event. Very little of the equipment was saved. This hospital, which is well managed, has been temporarily relocated in the city but is looking for quarters outside, which are most dificult to find.

The demand for buildings for various governmental and other uses outside the city and within a few miles of it is tremendous and, though there has been an intensive building programme for some months, the supply cannot keep up with the demand. A number of government educational and other institutions are endeavouring to locate here or near here, but are having difficulty in finding suitable accommodations.

Soochow Attempt to Blow Up Newspapers

Soochow, Dec. 28.

Japanese Gendarmerie last night succeeded in effecting wholesale arrests of terrorists just several hours prior to a nefarious attempt to blow up two influential local newpaper offices, it was revealed here.—Domei.

Envoy Presents Credentials

Nanking, Dec. 28.

As a result of the signing of the fundamental treaty, international relations between Japan and China have been restored and Japan extends recognition to the "National Government at Nanking" as the only orthodox government in China, Mr. Kumataro Honda, Japanese Ambassador to China, declared in his initial interview with the press this afternoon at his official residence here.

Mr. Honda's interview with the press took place following the ceremony in which the new Ambassador presented his credentials to Mr. Wang Ching-wei, "President of the National Government."

Mr. Honda told newsmen that despite the alienation of relations between the two governments and estrangement of feelings between the two nations for quite some time, it was nevertheless a sober fact that there is no change in the original close racial, historical and geographical relations between the two countries.

The Ambassador concluded his interview with an expression of full determination to do whatever possible toward the enhancement of mutual understanding and sympathy based on the recently ratified treaty and to further the materialization of a new order in East Asia.—Domei.

B. & S. Ship Held Up At Canton

Hongkong, Dec. 23.

New restrictions imposed by the Japanese authorities at Canton today again caused the Butterfield and Swire steamer Fatshan to suspend sailing to the Pearl River, forcing numerous foreigners in Shameen to miss many of the delicacies they expected to find in their Christmas dinners.

The Japanese demanded that the Fatshan's cargo of fresh provisions, butter and vegetables consigned to Shameen residents be sprayed with formalin as a precaution against cholera. Shippers, however, declared that such a precaution was unnecessary and would only cause great inconvenience.

Negotiations have already been started between the Japanese authorities at Canton and Butterfield and Swire officials.

The Fatshan made only one round-trip to Canton since the former restrictions were lifted, although the N.Y.K. Shirogane Maru maintains a weekly service between Hongkong and Canton—United. Press

Sailings Stopped

Canton, Dec. 24.

The Butterfield and Swire steamer Fatshan, the only British steamer linking Hongkong and Canton, has temporarily discontinued all sailings despite the modification of Japanese quarantine restrictions.

It is reported that the last trip of the Fatshan—a few days after the reopening of the Pearl River—resulted in considerable loss, partly because of the limited number of passengers allowed each ship.

Since then, the Japanese have raised the limit of passengers from 100 to 300 (before the restrictions came into force the Fatshan used to carry as many as 1,400 passengers a trip), provided sleeping accommodation can be provided for them.

In addition, incoming passengers are now subjected to one specimen examination only, involving ships in a stay of approximately 24 hours in quarantine.

With the Fatshan unavailable, local stores are getting in their supplies via Macao in the Portuguese steamer Shing Cheong.—Reuter.

Spanish Missionary Slain by Bandits

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

In connection with a news agency report appearing in the issue of the "North-China Daily News" of December 19, under the heading "Italian Catholic Killed in Wuhu," this journal has received a letter from the Rev. Z. Aramburu, S.J., Apostolic Vicar of Wuhu, in which he states that in his vicariate there are no active Italian missionaries, all being either Spanish or Chinese. The man who was killed was the Rev. P. Richard Ponsol, one of the first Spanish missionaries to arrive with three others in 1913. He was stopped at the city gates of Kinghsien, very near his house on October 9 and killed the following day. His corpse was found three days afterwards half a kilometre from the town, where it had certainly been carried by his murderers. His twenty-seven years of missionary work had earned for him the general esteem of all, heathen as well as Christian.

"No War Supplies Going Through Vladivostok"

Moscow, Dec. 24.

The official Tass Agency has issued a denial of a report published in an American newspaper that the Chinese Army is receiving large quantities of war material, medicines and other supplies by way of Vladivostok, and that an American military officer will shortly go to Vladivostok to speed up transportation of war material to China. "This report is fabricated from beginning to end," the agency says. —Reuter.

Japanese Surround Communist Units

Hankow, Dec. 27.

Taken by surprise by the swift enveloping pincer movement of two Japanese detachments, sections of the Chungking Communist New Fourth Army which penetrated into the mountain area south of Yinshan in Hupeh, face complete annihilation, according to a report reaching here. Retreat of the Chinese is completely cut off, by the action of the Japanese forces which converged upon the enemy from different directions, the report added.—Domei.

Rift with Communists?

Nanking, Dec. 28.

Complete breakdown between the Chungking regime and the Chinese Communist Party was envisaged by Col. Takee Imai, chief of the General Headquarters Press Section of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces to China, who in an interview yesterday, declared that the rift between Chiang Kai-shek and the Reds is widening, with the latter still eager to capture political power.

So-called armed resistance, and co-operation between the Kuomintang and the Communists has dwindled to an extent alarming to Chungking, asserted Col. Imai, who recalled that a compromise was reported reached between the two parties last summer.

Chungking has shown rigid attitude in repressive measures against the Communists, and is willing to suppress the Reds even at the expense of military power, said the Press chief.

From material gathered by the Japanese Army headquarters from confiscated enemy documents and statements made by war prisoners, it is apparent that Chungking is intending to make the Communist armies bear the brunt of attack in Japanese occupied areas, thus hoping to cause their disruption, said Col. Imai.

New Orders

As a first step in this movement, the Press chief continued, the Supreme War Council in Chungking has ordered removal of the Eighth Route Army and the New Fourth Army, both Communist forces, from south of the Yellow River, and Yangtze River, to north of the rivers, respectively.

Already, the New Fourth Army is reported to have commenced crossing the Yangtze River, though it has sent out declarations hotly critizing the Kuomintang's attitude.

It was also learned that Chiang Kai-shek will take stern measures against any acts by the Communists, and that the Chungking Ministry of Military Administration has suspended financial assistance to the Communist armies, Col. Imai said.

Explaining Chungking's actions, Col. Imai said that Chungking ostensibly has been approving of co-operation with the Communists for the dual purpose of currying favour with Soviet Russia, and to solidify anti-Japanese resistance, but in reality has never relaxed its watchful attitude towards the Communists.—Domei.

Burmese Journalists Broadcast

Chungking, Dec. 29.

The party of Burmese journalists which is at present on a visit to Chungking spent this morning inspecting the offices of Chinese newspapers in the capital. At noon they will attend the inaugural meeting of the Eastern Cultural Association, and in the evening will attend a dinner given by the Chungking Press Association.

At a later hour tonight the members of the party will make a radio broadcast in Burmese over the Chinese broadcasting station addressed to the people of Burma, and informing them of the details and impressions of their trip to Chungking.

After ten days stay in the capital, the party will proceed to Chengtu, and from there will return to Rangoon over the Burma Road.—Reuter.

Japanese Bomb Chuchow, Hunan

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Siangtan, Hu., Dec. 9.

The long rest from alarms and planes was broken recently by almost daily alarms. Yesterday many planes bombed Chuchow 60 miles away which could be heard here and every alarm sees streams of people leaving for safe places. This morning the writer went to the street just as an alarm sounded; it was a sight to see how quickly the street was cleared of people and shops closed. Every road leading from the city was crowded. The damage caused by the bombing yesterday has not become known here.

The economic situation remains quite the same and little has been accomplished by price fixing. It remains to be seen whether prices can be fixed by laws, which ignore costs of other commodities and the waning value of the Chinese dollar. Rice is still scarce and there is an abundance yet unsold in the country. Hunan rice continues to be sent from the province and so supply and demand hold prices firm.

Labour is scarce and high and it is almost impossible to get workmen even at the high rates prevailing. Chair-bearers are reaping a harvest, since so many people go and come from the country. Sometimes it is quite impossible to get them, and some of the country roads in time of rain are quite impassable. City people do not enjoy living in the country, because of the lack of comforts.

The Siangtan electric light plant has raised prices and the service is bad. It is closing down for one month to make repairs and meanwhile kerosene has again gone up in price—it is hard to get at any price.

The road via Hongkong and north-east Kwangtung is still open to passengers. Mails are slow and uncertain but, strange as it might seem, things do come. A foreigner got a Christmas package sent in November, 1939, just recently and seeds sent in April arrived late in November—that they come at all is quite remarkable.

Registration of land continues with many ups and downs. Many do not know what it is all about and are suspicious that it is a scheme to lay new taxes later on. Work done in surveying and mapping, however, is a large job and seemingly was well done.

Schools still carry on, mostly in the country, but the number seems insufficient to supply the demand.

Miss Edith Thompson is on her way to Siangtan from the College of Chinese Studies, Peiping, to join the staff of the Siangtan Presbyterian Hospital. She is a registered nurse and spent one year in the Language School there.

Rice Rioters Shot by Wenchow Soldiers

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Many poor people were killed or wounded recently when a big rice riot was staged in front of the magistrate's office in Wenchow, east Chekiang and one of the rice-producing districts in central China. A news agency report, published by the "Shun Pao," states that the poor were demonstrating when the Self Defence Corps was forced to open fire.

There has been an apparent shortage of rice in the district as the populace cannot buy the grain from the market. The angry demonstrators who petitioned for more rice stormed residences of several members of the gentry of the district destroying everything in sight, the report says.

The Provisional Political Assembly of Chekiang cabled a message of sympathy to natives of Wenchow and promised to ask the provincial authorities to send more rice to the district. People in Shaoshing and Ningpo are said to be suffering from a rice shortage also. In Ningpo, two meals of congee and only one meal of rice instead of three meals of rice are served in many families.

It will be recalled in this connection that some time ago public-spirited people in Shanghai bought rice from Saigon for the Chekiang people but the blockade prevented them from sending the cargo away in large quantities. Part of the grain bought by Mr. Yu Ya-ching had to be sold in Shanghai at a loss.

A slight improvement has been seen in the Shanghai Rice Market as middlemen are not allowed to go there.

CHINESE guerillas suffered a loss of 244 killed in mopping-up operations simultaneously launched by six Japanese detachments in Shantung on December 21, according to field despatches relayed from Tsinan. Thirty-three Chinese irregulars were taken prisoner by the Japanese.

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Japan's Rule in North China

Conditions Infinitely Worse Than Prior to 1937 Lukouchiao Incident; No "Earthly Paradise"

SPECIAL TO THE "N.C.D.N."

Peiping, Dec. 15.

ON this day three years ago, the Provisional Government of the Chinese Republic was proclaimed from the top of the Heavenly Peace Gate in Peiping, with much waving of the restored five-colour flags and those of the Rising Sun, and to the accompaniment of floods of eloquence.

At that time the Japanese army were assuring people that it would only be a matter of a few months before Gen. Chiang Kai-shek was defeated and suppressed, when perfect peace would reign throughout the length and breadth of China. People were also assured that the installation of this entirely independent and spontaneous—a very favourite word in those days—government was the herald of an era of prosperity for the fortunate Chinese people, in which north China would rapidly become an earthly paradise.

In the present days the Japanese government has been assuring the world that the one and only reason for its desire to overthrow Gen. Chiang Kai-shek is the entirely benevolent one of establishing a "new order in East Asia." At the time of the proclamation of the Provisional government three years ago, however, the "new order" had not yet been thought of: one had to be content with the "kingly way." It would, therefore, appear that, when the Japanese set out to conquer China in 1937, they were doing so only subconsciously for the now famous "new order."

False Prophet Fails

That the Japanese military gentlemen were so very badly out in their prophecies as to the date of the termination of the China Incident need not surprise anyone. After all, has not the greatest of all false prophets been wrong in the dates of his triumphant entry into London and the downfall of the British Empire? Nevertheless, one might have expected that the more general promises of that earthly paradise in north China would have come closer to fulfilment than has actually been the case. And it is rather fortunate for Japanese prestige that the majority of human beings have very short memories, so that all the glorious promises of three years ago have long since been forgotten. For, looking round today, one can scarcely, by the wildest stretch of imagination, call north China an earthly paradise. Even the most optimistic member of the Japanese army would, I think, hesitate to make that claim.

Conditions in north China today are not only infinitely worse than they were prior to the Lukouchiao incident of July, 1937, but, what is much more serious, is that even in the past year these conditions have markedly deteriorated. And one will not find an intelligent Chinese or, for that matter, outside military circles, a thinking Japanese, who is not considerably alarmed at the situation and the outlook for the future. There is certainly nothing to indicate, how or why things are likely to get better.

Not only has there been no progress in pacification during the last twelve months, but the actual area in the hands of Free Chinese, Eighth Route Army, Reds, guerillas or bandits—whichever term one likes to use—has been steadily increasing.

Peiping Like an Island

Peiping, if not a besieged city, is anyhow like an island in a sea of unrest, with fighting, if perhaps on a minor scale, going on spasmodically in all directions, and sometimes not so far from the city either. Its communications with the outside world, except by the line to Tientsin, have also become more uncertain. The great trunk line to the south, the Peiping-Hankow line, has been constantly interrupted by guerilla activities; the same applies, though in a lesser degree, to the Tientsin-Pukow line, while even the Peiping-Kalgan line, which had hitherto enjoyed a charmed existence, has also been raided in recent months.

In the plains of central Hopei, between the two great trunk lines, the Chinese roam at large, a kind of tacit agreement having apparently been come to between the two sides, in which the Japanese restrict themselves to the immediate garrisoning of a few of the larger towns, leaving the protection of the railways to Chinese levies from Manchoukuo or of the North China Pacification Corps.

And this works fairly well, as, barring sudden outbursts of violence on the part of the Free Chinese forces, the former manage to arrange things with their opponents, so that they themselves are not attacked, while as to attacking the "enemy" themselves, they do not dream of it, at least not on their own. Even east Hopei, the former so-called "demilitarized zone," which was always considered almost as completely pacified as any part of adjoining Manchoukuo, has in recent months been completely overrun by guerillas, whose raids now extend as far as towns on the Peiping-Mukden Railway.

Several Miscalculations

This failure of the Japanese to pacify north China would seem to be due to two main miscalculations. The one was that "all was over bar the shouting" long ago and that, in consequence, they could afford to reduce the numbers of the Japanese forces. The other was, that they could train faithful and loyal Chinese levies, who would finish off the work of pacification. Unfortunately for the Japanese, aes anyone else could have told them, these Chinese troops, which have been trained and partially armed by the Japanese themselves, have proved a complete failure, and at times an actual danger. Not only have they shown no enthusiasm whatever in fighting their countrymen, but in recent months there have been repeated and well-vouched-for reports of mutinies among them and of their going over en bloc to the other side.

Now the formation of this Chinese Peace Preservation Army under Japanese instructors was based on the Japanese theory that, contrary to what the rest of the world believed, the Chinese really love their Oriental brothers, the Japanese, and are only too glad to be ruled over and ordered about by them. Only a fortnight or so ago it was publicly enunciated by a Japanese general at Tsinan when addressing a party of visiting foreign journalists.

American Loan to China

Condemning the American loan to China, the general said that it was not only a crime because it meant a prolongation of hostilities, but it was also based on a misunderstanding of the Chinese people; for his personal knowledge of the Chinese had shown him that they were not in the least interested in Gen. Chiang Kai-shek and that they desired nothing more ardently than to be guided along the right path by the Japanese.

A large number of Japanese, if perhaps not all of them, certainly are firmly convinced of this theory. And it has been their undoing. For when the Chinese, for their part fail to act up to this theory, and gunmen shoot Japanese gendarmes, or harassed villagers ambush Japanese patrols or the new levies mutiny, the indignation of the Japanese at this base ingratitude knows no bounds, and they inflict punishment on the quiet innocent general public. Thereby they only cause more widespread dissatisfaction and create a fresh and fertile soil for doctrines of the Communists. Were they not hag-ridden by this fatal theory of the Japanese-loving Chinese, the Japanese would have been able to make allowances for Chinese opposition, and might have come to some modus vivendi.

Nanking Treaty Clauses

In the occupied territory of China the word Communist today simply means anti-Japanese. If the most "hard-boiled" reactionary, the most plutocratic capitalist, the completely unlettered coolie, were to express their dislike of the presence of the Japanese in their country, one and all would be Communists. And this explains the anti-Communist clauses in the recent Nanking Treaty, which mystified so many people, including apparently the Soviet Goverment, seeing that the Japanese claimed to be so anxious to be on good terms with the Government of Russia. The clauses were, of course, not directed against Russia at all. The Japanese put "Communist" meaning "anti-Japanese." The Japanese Government could hardly insert the words "anti-Japanese" in a public treaty with a Chinese government, as that would have been a public disavowal of the famous and all-powerful theory.

This theory has had a disastrous effect on relations between Chinese and Japanese. The resentment of the Japanese at their disappointed hopes, on the one hand, and the growing irritation of the Chinese at the never-ending Japanese restrictions, on the other, are undoubtedly some of the reasons, why the Japanese have failed in their attempts to pacify the country.

Hongkong to Be Stoutly Defended

Hongkong, Dec. 28.

Any idea that Hongkong will fall in a few days or a few weeks in the event of an attack, is entirely wrong, declared Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in the Far East, at a press interview at Flagstaff House yesterday, following his arrival by steamer from Singapore.

Sir Robert further asserted that "Hongkong is of permanent value to the British Empire and its garrison here has a very definite job to play in operations in this part of the world."

The British Commander-in-Chief is expected to remain here for five days.

On the subject of reinforcement for the Colony, Sir Robert would make no definite statement.

The "South China Morning Post" said in quoting Sir Robert, it was emphasized that British forces in the Far East are being reinforced, and that increase in strength in any part of his command would automatically strengthen other parts, even though indirectly.

Asked whether his appointment would lead to an increase in number of troops and the expansion of the Royal Air Force at present stationed at Hongkong, Sir Robert said that conditions of modern warfare have changed the conception of defence requirements.

Sir Robert said it was no longer a matter of defence in a small ring.

Radius of action and mobility of modern Royal Air Force squadrons was such that they could effect areas even at great distances from their bases.

Regarding the evacuation of Hongkong, Sir Robert declared that from a military point of view, the fewer the people who did not directly contribute to its defense, the better it would be for the Colony.

Questioned about the Sino-Japanese hostilities, the British Commander-in-Chief said "I think the Chinese are putting up a very fine fight.

"They have impressed me by the way in which they have opened up new industrial areas after withdrawals, thereby keeping their economic system going," he said.

Sir Robert added that the Chinese have been conducting a well directed guerilla warfare.—Domei.

British Commander Visits Hongkong

Hongkong, Dec. 27.

Sir Henry R. M. Brooke-Popham, newly - appointed Commander-in-Chief of British Forces in the Far East, arrived in the Colony this morning from Singapore to confer with the heads of the Services and to inspect defences.—Reuter.

Journalists from Burma In Chungking

Chungking, Dec. 28.

A party of eight journalists from Burma arrived here this morning by air from Kunming. The journalists were the guests at a luncheon given by the Minister of Publicity, Mr. Wang Shih-chieh, at which many foreign and Chinese pressmen were present.—Reuter.

OBITUARY

R. T. Evans

Tientsin, Dec. 24.

The Tientsin foreign community today mourns the sudden passing, from a heart attack, of Richard T. Evans, at the age of 56. The deceased was a veteran member of the United States bar.—Reuter.

R. Earnshaw

Rangoon, Dec. 23.

The death has occurred at Toungoo of heart failure of Mr. Ralph A. Earnshaw. Aged 65, Mr. Earnshaw was the son of General Earnshaw, who fought in the Crimean War.

Before coming to Burma in 1898, Mr. Earnshaw was an officer in Teddy Roosevelt's regiment of "Rough Riders" in the American-Spanish War. He was well known as a naturalist, and was the holder of the United States Congressional Medal for his courage in saving passengers from a burning vessel.—Reuter.

Raiders Aimed to Involve U.S.

German Vessels Reported to Be Fitted Out In Japanese Ports; Co-ordinated Attack

Manila, Dec. 29.

GERMANY is preparing quietly to carry her war against the British Empire and British shipping into the Pacific within a few weeks and hopes to throw Japan into war immediately against the United States, American defence circles believed here today.

United States naval authorities here were giving close attention today to reports that at least twelve German vessels were being armed and provisioned in Japanese ports or ports in Japanese-controlled areas of China.

Several German ships, operating from Japanese-controlled harbours, already are refuelling German raiders operating in Australian and Indian waters, it was reported. The refuelling ships were understood to have met the raiders somewhere among Japan's mandated islands of the Pacific.

Germany, it was believed, plans to launch an early attack against British shipping in the Pacific under the guise of aiding Japan's southward expansion programme. By offering such aid, it was believed, Germany hopes to persuade Japan to defy the United States by driving southward against the Netherlands East Indies and possibly Singapore or Thailand.

To Involve U.S.

Observers here believed the ultimate German objective was to involve Japan and the United States in war in the Pacific within the next few months. The Germans, it was believed, hope that involvement of the United States in war in the Pacific would prevent America from sending naval aid to Britain in the Mediterranean if the U.S. should declare war on Germany.

Defence circles here recalled reports of a recent incident in the harbour of Kobe when the Norwegian tanker Olav Jakob, manned by a German prize crew, was said to have entered the harbour, refuelled and departed despite protests of the Norwegian Minister to the Japanese Foreign Office.

Two German vessels, the Ragensburg and Kimberland, left Japan late in October and have not yet returnedy reliable sources also said.

In addition, the Elsa Essberger, the Burgenland, the Scharnhorst and the Anneliese Essberger are at Kobe, the Saarland is at Dairen and the Elbe Odenwald is at Yokohama—all constantly fuelled and provisioned, reliable sources disclosed.

Three German vessels were said to be at Tsingtao now and three others were said to be in China ports, all being refuelled and armed.

Actions to Coincide

The German vessels will be completely armed by mid-January, constituting Chancellor Hitler's "aid" to Japan in starting Japan's southward expansion, which will be timed to coincide with Germany's action in south-east Europe, said authoritative U.S. defence circles here.

The plan was designed to immobilize the United States' Fleet in the Pacific, possibly embroiling the U.S. and Japan in war at a time Britain urgently needs naval assistance, it was believed.

Foreign intelligence reports, reliable sources said, indicated numerous Germans have been arriving in Japan for months and that Chancellor Hitler has been putting pressure on Japan to "squeeze" the United States while Germany strikes in Europe.

Naval circles here understood that the German vessels not only would be used as commercial raiders in an effort to drive British shipping from the Pacific and Indian Ocean routes, but also would be used as a vanguard for Japanese moves against the Netherlands East Indies.

Tremendous Japanese troop movements from central and South China to Formosa and Hainan Island and completion of all preparations for a southward push, also were reported. However, authoritative circles here pointed out that no Japanese units in Manchuria have been moved, indicating that Japan's fear of Russia has not been dissipated.—United Press.

Raiders Provisioned

Washington, Dec. 29.

Reports reaching Washington from Manila quoting usually well-informed sources state that Japan is allowing twelve German vessels in Japanese and Japanese-controlled Chinese ports to arm and provision for raiding work in the Pacific.

It is also reported that some German vessels from Japanese harbours are already provisioning a raider or raiders now operating in the Pacific. The ports at which these activities are going on are stated to be Kobe, Dairen and Tsingtao.

The American naval authorities are said to be keeping closely in touch with the situation, while its effects on Japan's position as a neutral are being discussed should the reports prove well-founded.

The arrival in Washington of these reports concerning various Axis naval activities in the Pacific has centred much attention on that area, and has caused many people to wonder precisely what role Japan is really playing.

While it is not suggested that the raider which shelled the Nauru had Japanese permission to fly the Japanese flag and to use a Japanese name, the calm manner in which Tokyo has taken this violation of its flag is being contrasted to the violence with which alleged violations of Japanese rights by the Democracies are usually saluted in Japan.—Reuter.

U.S. Officially Uninformed

Washington, Dec. 29.

Authoritative sources today disclaimed knowledge of any activity of German sea raiders in Japanese ports.

The same sources, however, stressed that shelling of Nauru Island in the Gilbert group on Friday brought to the forefront the entire question of German-Japanese co-operation.

Informed sources considered it likely that Sir Robert Craigie, British Ambassador to Tokyo, would make representations to the Japanese Government concerning the alleged use of the Japanese flag by the supposed German raider.—United Press.

Purely Military Matter

Berlin, Dec. 29.

Authoritative sources here today declined to comment on reports German sea raiders were being outfitted in Japanese ports.

"If the report were true it would be purely a military matter, on which obviously nothing can be said," an authoritative source said. "On the other hand it may be a trial balloon attempting to try us out on whether these ships actually are there. In any case, nothing can be said from here."

Earlier, authorized sources had disclaimed knowledge of the shelling of Nauru Island, saying they had no authentic information. Mr. Robert Menzies, Australian Premier, on Friday said a German sea raider flying a Japanese flag shelled the British mandated island, which is on the equator just west of the international date line and south of Japanese mandated islands.—United Press.

Kashing Regains Its Prosperity

SPECIAL TO THE "N.C.D.N."

Kashing, Dec. 23.

Building operations continue steadily, both inside and outside the city. The very commodious railway station is an enlargement and improvement over the old one. Other buildings approaching completion may be seen from the car windows of passing trains.

Not only the branch railway to Soochow, but several bus lines now run on regular schedules. Quite a number of four-oared fast boats bring in country people to market and take them back in daylight hours. Few dare to run at night on account of bandits.

As the late rice has been harvested, small supplies are allowed in for local needs, but little if any may be exported by ordinary dealers. Regulations are very strict for passengers travelling and goods in transit. As the year comes to a close, the larger cloth stores and rice hongs admit, when questioned, that business has been profitable with advancing prices. Smaller shops seem to survive, because all available street fronts are occupied. Almost any sort of residence is rented again as soon as vacant. Large owners of farm lands formerly residing in the city but now absent as refugees, dare not return to collect rents for fear of robbers or kidnappers. Tenant farmers, thus escaping rent, do not as yet pay land tax, because they are not the owners.

Persistent efforts are being made to improve silk culture. Next in order for public benefit are ways and means to produce more rice and better rice for the increasing population. Marriages and funerals show less display, more economy. All schools are crowded with pupils.

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NEWS FROM THE INTERIOR (continued)

Thailand, Indo-China Fighting

Bangkok Communique Announces More Frontier Engagements ; Thai Premier Thanks Britain

Bangkok, Dec. 26.

RENEWED fighting between Thailand and Indo-Chinese forces is announced in a Thailand communique.

The opposing forces engaged in an artillery duel yesterday. Thailand batteries dispersed Indo-Chinese troop concentrations, the statement says.

Thailand forces sank two boats of a number despatched to Thailand by the Indo-Chinese forces, according to the communique.—Reuter.

Hanoi, Ded. 25.

Thailand artillery on Monday and yesterday unleashed 22 shells on Thakhet in French Indo-China from across the Mekong River, it was learned.

Meanwhile, it was understood that the Japanese have asked French permission for exclusive use of the Hanoi Laokai line.—United Press.

Thai Thanks Britain

Bangkok, Dec. 26.

Warm appreciation of Britain's friendship, watchful interest in Japan's "new order" in East Asia, and the readiness of Thailand to negotiate with France on the Indo-China border dispute were expressed to Reuter by the Thailand Prime Minister, Luang Bipul Songgram, in an hour's interview last evening.

The Prime Minister cordially affirmed that Thailand's relations with Britain were of an extremely smooth character, and in this connection instanced the recent speedy amicable settlement of the Burma-Thailand boundary question.

The Prime Minister drew from this the assumption that Britain sympathized with Thailand's claims against Indo-China.

He declared that Thailand was ready to shake hands with France tomorrow and forget the 75-year-old feud on condition that two small pieces of thinly-populated territory on this side of the Mekong river were ceded back, thus giving Thailand a natural frontier.

On the eve of the war, the Prime Minister disclosed, France sought a military pact with Thailand, but the latter declined as she desired to maintain neutrality.

Referring to Japan's new order, the Premier said Thailand would study it carefully, as she had trade and other relations with Japan, but her first concern always was to maintain an independent existence.—Reuter.

Frontier Skirmishes

Bangkok, Dec. 27.

Day-long skirmishes on the Thai-Indo-China frontier on Christmas Eve are reported in a communique issued here yesterday.

Incidents occurred at several points along the border. "The French fired across the frontier with both artillery and machine-guns," the communique states. "Our guns vigorously replied, scoring several direct hits which silenced the French guns. One woman was killed and two men were slightly injured on this side of the frontier. It is presumed that the French also suffered casualties," the communique adds.—Reuter.

Thai Detachment Ambushed

Hanoi, Dec. 26.

A detachment of Thai soldiers which violated the territory of Cambodia, in the Pailin region, was ambushed by French and Indo-Chinese troops and was compelled to retreat after having sustained important casualties estimated at fifteen killed and many injured.—Havas.

15 Minute Battle

Bangkok, Dec. 28.

A 15-minute battle occurred yesterday morning at Klongluk in the Aranya-Pradesa sector on the Thai-French Indo-China frontier, said a communique today.

French forces staged a machine-gun attack but were forced back without inflicting any Thai casualties, the communique said.—United Press.

Matsuoka's Request

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

Mr. Yosuke Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, today requested full and frank discussions of problems between Japan and French Indo-China.

Mr. Matsuoka's request was made in a speech at a luncheon honouring Indo-China trade delegates who have come to Tokyo to continue trade negotiation talks begun in Hanoi.

Frank discussion would promote "all around cooperation between Japan and Indo-China," Mr. Matsuoka said, and thus contribute to the stabilization and prosperity of East Asia. Formal trade talks will begin January 10, it is expected.—United Press.

French Claims

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

French troops drove back Thai forces which are alleged to have crossed the border of southern Cambodia; the Thai troops abandoned 15 men killed, according to a semi-official Japanese report from Hanoi. On Boxing Day, the French authorities revealed, French and Thai aircraft carried out "bomphlet" raids.—Reuter.

Indo-China Tin Mines Idle

Hanoi, Dec. 27.

French Indo-China's two largest tin mines at Boneng north of Thakhet are at a standstill because of hostilities with Thailand, it was learned reliably yesterday.

Thai shells and planes bombard the roads from the mines along the river border as soon as anything moves and now only armoured cars are allowed on the road. Tin also is transported by river boats, but these, too, are attacked.

Frightened natives refused to work in the exposed mines and owners are planning to close them. They had asked authorities to make more planes and artillery available to protect the road.

Thai troops landed on the French islands of Sanet and Chien near Savannakhet on Tuesday and the French, in retaliation, shelled Thai barracks across the river.

At the same time at Poipet in western Cambodia Thai and French patrols clashed, resulting in the killing of three Siamese and the wounding of one French soldier.

The same day a Thai plane flew over the Savannakhet region and provoked a French reprisal of machine-gun fire on Kemmarat. The Thai forces sent back 20 shells in another reprisal.—United Press.

Thai Guns Fire Across Border

Hanoi, Dec. 24.

On the afternoon of December 22, Thai artillery fired a number of shells across the Mekong river, some of which fell on the Vientiane suburbs. There were no casualties. Material damages are slight.—Havas.

Important Japanese Official for Saigon

Hanoi, Dec. 27.

A high Japanese official whose importance exceeds that of Major-General Raishiro Sumita, Chairman of the Japanese Military Mission in French Indo-China, will go to Saigon tomorrow to confer with General Sumita on Japanese aspirations in southern Indo-China, a reliable source said yesterday.

The official told French leaders that, since "Japanese affairs in Tonking are settling down, we now are turning our interest southward."

The Japanese recently obtained land surrounding the Haiphong air field, which they are enlarging. They also used 5,000 tons of cement to modernize the Hanoi air field and have ordered 30,000 more tons, it was understood.

A large number of Japanese troops already have settled at Hanoi and officials and officers now own private homes.

The Japanese soon will fully exploit Laokay phosphate mines, it was understood. One Japanese official returning from an inspection of the mines said that the Japanese would obtain 500 tons of phosphate a year from the mines.

Japan badly needs phosphate for fertilizer. The fragile railway to the mines probably could not carry the amount expected, but transportation of phosphate on the Red River was said possible.

Since the railway income is insufficient to keep it up, the French are willing to negotiate for its transfer, it was understood. Exploitation of the mines was expected to start immediately.—United Press.

"America to Use Singapore Base"

Manila, Dec. 27.

The "Manila Bulletin" today quoted Mr. Hallet Abend, "New York Times" correspondent, as saying that it was generally expected that formal arrangements would be concluded shortly for joint British-American use of the Singapore naval base despite Japan's announced opposition to such a plan. Mr. Abend returned here after spending some time in Singapore.

The "Bulettin" further reported that Mr. Abend said that it was "believed that arrangements would already have been concluded except for the death of Lord Lothian (British Ambassador to Washington).

"British officialdom, though, said to be uninformed officially, believes that the deal will include the right for the British Fleet to make use of facilities in Manila and Olongapo." the "Bulletin" quoted Mr. Abend. Mr. Abend, according to the "Bulletin," criticized the severe censorship imposed by the Singapore authorities on news despatches, since the naval base was over-run with Japanese agents who naturally were sending all valuable information to Tokyo for relay to Italy and Germany.

Although none of the British Fleet is at present stationed at Singapore, the island "is a great and nearly impregnable fortress," Mr. Abend said, the "Bulletin" reported.

Strong Reinforcements

It further said that Mr. Abend related that the "garrison was reinforced strongly late in November. Many transports arrived, bringing mostly Indian troops. Since then additional Australian and New Zealand forces arrived. Also the air force has been strongly augmented."

Mr. Abend, the "Bulletin" said, pointed out that British censorship was most strict concerning all measures and even when facts and figures were imparted to correspondents they were pledged in advance to maintain secrecy.

The censorship, "Bulletin" quoted him as saying, "seems a useless precaution, for Japanese agents without any disguise check up on the arrival and unloading of transports and also the entrainment of those reinforcements sent further up the peninsula.

"Japan, of course, is the immediate potential enemy of all Singapore defence plants—no other country is able or likely to attack the British Empire in this part of the globe.

"If the information gathered at Singapore and sent to Tokyo is valuable to Germany and Italy, it is natural to suppose that Tokyo would relay it to her Axis partners so an excessively strict censorship seems futile."—United Press.

Heavy Reinforcements Arrive at Singapore

Singapore, Dec. 23.

Air Marshall Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander-in-Chief of British Far Eastern Forces, today announced that substantial reinforcements of aircraft and airforce personnel, Indian infantry and artillery, plus engineers and auxiliary units have arrived in Singapore.

The reinforcements are for "strengthening formidable defences of Singapore and also to increase defences of other areas of the Far East Command, Sir Robert said.—United Press.

Philippines Officials Deport Two Men

Manila, Dec. 28.

The Bureau of Immigration, has deported Mr. Richard H. Kupsche, a German citizen, and Mr. Tamachi Takaichi, a Japanese, the "Manila Herald" said today.

Mr. Kupsche was said to have entered the Philippines illegally several years ago. Both men sailed for Japan on December 23 on the Mexico Maru, the newspaper said.

Mr. Takaichi was accused of subversive activities in Davao where he was alleged to have continually attacked the democratic form of government and praised the Totalitarian system.

Mr. Kupsche was investigated by United States officials for attempting to obtain naval information from U.S. sailors, it was stated.—United Press.

Coup D'Etat Plan in Bangkok

Japanese Charged with Intent to Overthrow Government, Exert Pressure on Indo-China

Hongkong, Dec. 29.

AN alleged Japanese plan to stage a political *coup d'état* in Thailand, coincident with increased Japanese pressure in southern French Indo-China, was disclosed exclusively today to the United Press by unimpeachable sources here.

Japanese and Wang Ching-wei already were operating in southern Indo-China in behalf of Thailand, the United Press was informed. Unimpeachable sources disclosed that they intercepted a letter from Tokyo addressed to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha agent in Bangkok which was alleged to have disclosed that four Japanese were en route to Bangkok under the guise of a goodwill mission.

The four men were said to be carrying personal instructions from Mr. Yosuke Matsuoka, Japanese Foreign Minister, to organize a pro-Japanese *coup d'etat* through the Thai army, to which Japan has been increasing military aid.

Japan's increased aid to Thailand included 33 pursuit planes and 25 bombers, delivered early in December, the unimpeachable sources said.

Ships Carry Munitions

The Bangkok Maru was said to be en route to Bangkok carrying 915 tons of assorted munitions and guns and another steamer was said preparing to sail from Japan soon carrying tanks.

French Indo-China, it was said, has done its utmost to combat Japanese pressure against Saigon, which was coincident with alleged Japanese collaboration with Thailand against the French.

Japanese army officers in Hanoi recently frequently flew to Bangkok, leading French authorities to suspend an airplane to Bangkok in an effort to halt espionage, it was said, however, the Japanese line via Vientiane was said to be still operating.

Japanese "tourists" in southern Indo-China have been increasing rapidly, mainly in efforts to penetrate French military zones in Cambodia and Laos, said reliable sources.

Major-General , Raishiro Sumita chief of the Japanese military mission to Indo-China, during a recent southern tour also tried to enter the zones but was prevented, said reliable reports.

Japanese Turned Back

Earlier, it was said, French officials arrested two automobile loads of Japanese, including eight officers, in the same area. The Japanese were returned to Saigon under escort, it was reported.

The intercepted letter revealed that the Japanese planned to stage a political *coup d'etat* by overthrowing the existing Bangkok regime and installing a war party, those who were alleged to have read the letter told United Press.

The letter was said to have explained to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha agent that the real assignment of the four Japanese was to organize the *coup d'etat* and engineer installation of a pro-Japanese Government.

Agents of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, informed circles told the United Press, were acting as part of a large espionage organization, including natives and Wang Ching-wei men, operating in the French colony.

The Japanese air line which was suspended by the French was a new one and connected Hanoi with Bangkok via Tourane and Saigon. The remaining line, also Japanese operated, still permits travel, however.

There were nearly 30 persons on the tour with Gen. Sumita who were prevented from reaching the Cambodia and Laos military zones, it was said.—United Press.

Clashes Continued

Bangkok, Dec. 29.

Clashes continued on Friday on all fronts of the Thai-French Indo-China frontier, the High Command announced yesterday.

A 20-minute artillery duel began on Saturday at 7.20 p.m. across the border in the Nong-khai sector, the communique said.—United Press.

Affrays Minimized

Vichy, Dec. 29.

Despatches chiefly from Tokyo and Bangkok were reporting spies, air raids, bombardments and heavy frontier fighting between French Indo-China and Thailand, but Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux, Governor-General of Indo-China, replied to a Government cable query yesterday that the despatches were false.

"There was spasmodic firing from across the border against Mekong River shipping, but beyond sniping there was no concerted action on land or air recently," Admiral Decoux said.—United Press.

Matsuoka's Assurances

Vichy, Dec. 29.

The French Government yesterday published a despatch from Tokyo quoting Mr. Yosuke Matsuoka, Japanese Foreign Minister, as saying, during the reception for the French Trade Delegation, "Japan has not the slightest intention of taking advantage of France's difficulties.

"It is not in Japanese character to take advantage of the weakness of others to satisfy their own ambitions," he said.

This statement was interpreted by Vichy as an indication that Japan would not support Bangkok's territorial claims against French Indo-China.—United Press.

Communist Trouble Over

Saigon, Dec. 29.

That, in the Cochin-China regions where some months ago communist agitation was prevalent, complete calm has now been restored, was evidenced to Governor-General Admiral Decoux who has just come back to Saigon after a week's tour of Cochin-China. The Governor has expressed his satisfaction at the moral of both the French residents and the natives.

Although for a while red trouble reached a certain amount of violence.—Havas.

Australia's Stand In the Pacific

Singapore, Dec. 27.

Mr. Perry Spender, Australian War Minister, who arrived here on December 24 with Lieutenant-Gen. Vernon Hobart Sturdee, Australian Chief of Staff of the Army, for important military conferences, declared to newspaperman "our desire is for the three great nations facing the Pacific—the United States, Japan and Australia—to live in amity."

The Australian War Minister said the European war brought the United States and Australia closer as shown by the exchange of ministers between the two countries.

As a sign of a desire for peace in the Pacific, Mr. Spender continued, Australia sent Sir John Greig Lathan, as Minister to Japan.

He declared that Australia considers Singapore vital as the link of Empire communications, stressing that Australia always stands with the Empire.

There had been and always will be complete understanding on this point, Mr. Spender pointed out.

He said Australia contributed greatly toward British Empire defence by assuring her own defence and by placing herself on a full war footing with minimum disturbance. Australia, besides, is enlisting 130,000 men for overseas service, is providing 30,000 men for the Empire air scheme, and has laid the foundations of a home army of 200,000, he further pointed out. Mr. Spender stated that 150,000 will be engaged in munitions production by spring.—Domei.

Japan Hopes N.E.I. Will Continue Talks

Batavia, Dec. 29.

Mr. Kenkichi Yoshizawa, chief Japanese delegate to the Japan-Netherlands East Indies negotiations, after greeting the East Indies delegation in the lobby of the Hotel des Indies, declared:

"I have come as successor to Mr. Ichizo Kobayashi, Minister of Commerce and Industry, and it will be my pleasure to start talking with the Netherlands East Indies delegation on remaining questions as soon as possible.

"Firmly believing that great importance should be stressed upon the necessity of this mission and the mutual benefit to be derived from the maintenance and promotion of friendly and close relations between Japan and the Netherlands East Indies, I should like to carry on the negotiations to the best of my ability with a view to attaining this object.

"I earnestly hope, therefore, that all circles concerned will be kind enough to render me their sincere co-operation and support."

Mr. Yoshizawa arrived in Batavia yesterday morning and is expected to meet the Governor-General, Dr. A.W.L. Tjarda van Starkenborch Stachouwer, on January 2—Domei.

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NEWS FROM JAPAN

Axis Pact Helping Chiang

Col. Mabuchi, Army Press Section Chief, Refers To the "Waste Paper" Treaties of Germany

Tokyo, Dec. 27.

LITTLE hope for the early total collapse of the Chungking Government, "unless some radical change occurs in the world situation in the future," is seen by Colonel Hayao Mabuchi, chief of the army press section, in an article in the "Nichi Nichi," in which he warns the Japanese people against complacency and over-optimism.

"Many people in this country," he says, "seem to have an idea that the conclusion of the tripartite alliance has turned the international trend in favour of Japan, but in my opinion it is now steadily drifting towards the other direction—favourable to the Chungking regime.

"For Britain and America finally have determined to help out the Chungking Government following the conclusion of the tripartite pact, and accordingly there is little hope for the total collapse of that regime unless some radical change occurs in the world situation in the future.

"The present China affair is complicated—so complicated that it cannot be comprehended thoroughly by mere common sense. Japan is fighting the troops of General Chiang Kai-shek on the soil of China, but the defeat of these troops will not bring about the solution of the current Sino-Japanese hostilities.

"Most of the Chinese now collected under the banner hoisted by General Chiang represent the cream of the Chinese people with flaming love for their country. Standing behind them are Britain, America and other countries which intend to maintain the old order in East Asia by helping out the Chungking regime in its struggle against Japan.

"Japan should recognize fully the strenuous efforts, which the anti-Japanese camp at Chungking have been making. The Japanese army can defeat its enemies, and this embedded in the minds of the Japanese has brought the feeling that Japan has already won the victory over China

"The Chinese today are divided into two great camps. One seeks to reconstruct China through peace and the other, through fighting to the last. Both intend to make China an independent country. In this respect, the Japanese should not see China and the Chinese through a glass darkened by prejudice and dogmatic views.

"It is all well for Japan to advocate the establishment of a new order in East Asia or the construction of a Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere, but it would be of no good unless Japan becomes powerful enough to execute these projects by itself, if need be.

"If Japan has no real strength, any treaties and agreements Japan may conclude with other countries would be nothing more than pieces of waste-paper as has been proved by Germany.

"It is no time for the people of this country to indulge themselves in mean struggles in pursuit of their own interests. It is high time for them to push forward vigorously not only for the settlement of the present China affair but for the establishment of a super-defence State by speeding up the rearmament of the country and expanding the productive power with all their might."—Reuter.

Japan Feeling Embargo On Scrap Iron

Tokyo, Dec. 27.

The Cabinet today adopted a new steel production increase plan which was prepared by the Cabinet Planning Board in cooperation with the Army, Navy and private industries, said Japanese sources.

The plan was designed to "enable the Japanese steel industry to emerge from its present position where it depends to a considerable extent on foreign countries for its scrap iron supply," because of the intensified United States embargo following conclusion of the tripartite alliance, Japanese sources said.

Thorough development of a process turning ore into steel without use of scrap iron is envisaged in the plan, it was said.—United Press.

Price of Rice in Japan

Tokyo, Dec. 23.

The Rice Control Commission announced today that the minimum price of rice for next year would be raised by Y.6.50 to Y.39 per koku, (a koku corresponds to about five bushels). The maximum price of Y.43 per koku will be retained.—Domei.

Emperor Opens Diet In Japan

Tokyo, Dec. 26.

Emperor Hirohito today formally opened Japan's 76th Diet by reading an Imperial Rescript in which he expressed gratification at closer relations between his nation and other signatories of the tripartite alliance.

The Emperor addressed the assembled members of both houses of the Diet and members of Tokyo's diplomatic corps including Mr. Joseph C. Grew, General Eugen Ott, and Sir Robert Craigie, Ambassadors of the United States, Germany and Great Britain, respectively and Sig. Mario Indelli, the Italian Minister.

"We are pleased to see intercourse between Japan and the Treaty Powers become closer," the Emperor said. "However, prevailing and unprecedented disturbances of the world appear endless.

Greater Efforts Urged

"We therefore wish the entire Japanese nation to exert greater efforts in assisting the Government in the conduct of state affairs."

Emperor Hirohito instructed Diet members to approve the Cabinet's unprecedentedly large budget of Y.6,830,000,000 the largest portion of it being for defence expenditures.

The Diet held an opening organizational session on Tuesday, and observed a holiday on Wednesday in memory of the late Emperor Taisha father of the present Emperor, who died on Christmas Day, 1926.

Today's session, with reading of the Imperial Rescript, constituted formal opening of the Diet, which will adjourn on Friday until January 20 to tackle a large agenda of Government bills—United Press.

Diet in Recess

Tokyo, Dec. 27.

The Japanese Diet today went into recess until January 20.

The Diet held an organizational session on Tuesday, was formally opened yesterday when Emperor Hirohito read an Imperial rescript and adjourned after another organizational session today.—United Press.

Nine Persons Believed Dead in Tokyo Fire

Tokyo, Dec. 24.

Nine persons are believed to have been burned to death and eight received injuries early this morning when a fire broke out in Shiba Ward destroying two houses and partially damaged another. The fire was brought under control and extinguished in half an hour.

Nine persons were found missing after the fire, and are believed to have been burned to death. They are Masatoshi Ozawa and his wife, three children, two waitresses, and two cooks. Mrs. Kiyoko Ozawa, mother of Masatoshi Ozawa, is lying in a serious condition.—Domei.

Japanese Emperor to Receive Foreigners

Tokyo, Dec. 23.

On the occasion of the New Year celebrations, the Emperor will receive foreigners holding Japanese first-class decorations, while those possessing second to sixth class orders will be allowed to sign their names in the visitors' book at the Imperial Palace, according to an announcement by the Board of Ceremonies of the Imperial Household Department.

All foreigners affected have been asked to send in their names and addresses, including the classes of the orders they hold, before December 26.

Holders of orders of the third class and upward have also been requested to send in the names of their wives.—Reuter.

"Japan Times" on New Note Issue

Tokyo, Dec. 24.

The decision of the Nanking Government to allow fapi to continue to circulate as legal tender after the issue of its own notes on January 6 is described as a wise move by the "Japan Times and Advertiser" in a leading article.

It should be borne in mind, the newspaper says, that although fapi notes are spoken of as the issue of the Chungking Government, in reality they represent the savings of the people of China as a whole.

The old Government, it adds, recalled all hard money (Mex. silver dollars) and made the circulation of paper obligatory, centralizing all bullion in the national treasury, which later was exported to foreign countries. That money belonged to the people and in no way can be regarded as the property of a political party. For that reason the Nanking Government is quite justified in admitting the continued use of fapi as legal tender.

The Nanking Finance Ministry, the paper continues, "has taken a wise and realistic view of the situation in Central China, particularly at Shanghai, by permitting the use of the fapi and concurring in the circulation of Japanese military notes.

Popular Favour

"Because fapi is and probably will remain for an undetermined period, a currency convertible into foreign exchange, so long as Shanghai continues to operate as an open money market, these notes will hold first place in popular favour. In the last analysis currency is not a matter of patriotism, or loyalty, or acknowledgment of any governing authority. It is a matter of straight value and business; what can be done with the notes is what the public must consider. Knowing this, the Finance Minister makes no attempt to repeat the orders of North China, which prohibited all notes but the Federal Reserve issue.

"In January three currencies will circulate, fapi, or the issue of the old National Government of the Republic of China, Japanese military notes and the new crisp paper of the Central Reserve Bank. Hwa Hsing notes issued by an official bank will be withdrawn. Outside the settlement areas of Shanghai and other extraterritorial zones the new notes must be accepted as legal tender and the complicated question will then arise of how a small merchant who receives these notes may pass them on to a wholesaler in the International Settlement in exchange for goods when the wholesaler would require fapi to buy exchange for his imports.

"Fortunately the Ministry's liberal attitude toward fapi gives it equal legal status with the new notes of the governing power. That may mean that fapi notes will be paid out by the Central Reserve Bank equally with its own notes. Against this expectation is to be set the aim of the Government which, in the long run, must be to replace the old notes with the new. While the Chungking Government continues to function it is difficult to see how this can be done, for its Central Bank continues to put out notes which are carried through the country and eventually find their way into Shanghai circulation. Unfortunately the new notes will not be acceptable in the territory over which Nanking's writ doesn't run."—Reuter.

Japan Seeking New Fisheries Pact

Tokyo, Dec. 23.

In an effort to settle the thorny issue finally, Japan is reported to be making a special effort to conclude a new fisheries pact with Soviet Russia before the expiration of the present provisional agreement on December 31.

Writing on the subject, the "Asahi" urges Japan not to patch up the situation again by another provisional pact.

"There is no doubt," the newspaper says, "that the pending fisheries issue is one of the basic problems which lie between the two countries today. Problems which Japan desires to solve one by one.

"In Japan, the fisheries issue has always been regarded as the barometer that clearly indicates the diplomatic relations with Soviet Russia. As a matter of fact, it is not simply an economic issue, but an issue of historic significance into which the sentiment of the Japanese is deeply interwoven."

The right of Japanese to fish in the waters around Saghalien is involved in the issue.—Reuter.

Mission Workers Leaving Japan

Tokyo, Dec. 27.

The Rev. George Dempsie and his wife, founders of the Japan Rescue Mission at Minamimozu, a village in Osaka Prefecture, who have been in Japan for the past 23 years, will donate the entire welfare institute to Japanese social workers and leave Japan early in January.

In appreciation of their distinguished service the Governor of Osaka Prefecture will give them a letter of thanks. They have spent more than Y1,500,000 since their arrival in Japan for the relief of orphans, reformatory work and various other social projects.—Reuter.

Japanese Reforms Defined

Nagoya, Dec. 28.

Declaring that reform does not necessarily mean "destroying old and building new," Baron Kiichiro Hiranuma, newly-appointed Home Minister, warned the nation against forming a wrong idea of the new structure movement.

The Home Minister, en route to Tokyo yesterday after reporting his assumption of the post at the Ise Shrines, aboard the train declared to the press that "the reform is making the present conditions in Japan better," and added that the last great reform of Japan was the Meiji Restoration but even then the "old was not destroyed but the new was built out of the foundation set by Emperer Jimmu."

National Policy Unchanged

Pointing out that a jewel's brilliance dims when it gathers dust and needs to be polished to restore its brilliance, Baron Hiranuma declared that Japan's national policy "is without equal in the world and has not changed since time immemorial, and that no dust should be allowed to gather on it."

"Liberalism and individualism are dust," Baron Hiranuma declared, adding that Japan's family system has existed from ancient times and should be respected. He said that the National Service Association has been reported as unconstitutional but this assertion does not hold good because the formation of the national policy "will always be made by the Cabinet with the National Service Association assisting" and forming the centre of the spiritual movement.—Domei.

Founder of News Service In Japan Retires

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

Mr. Hoshio Mitsunaga, founder and president of Messrs. Nippon Dempo Tsushinsha which is popularly known as "Dentsu," retired from the presidency of the Company at the Annual General Meeting held yesterday, but he is remaining as an adviser.

Mr. Shinzo Mitsunaga, the younger brother of the out going president, was appointed the second president.

The outgoing president who is 75 years old established "Dentsu" over 40 years ago independently and, overcoming numerous difficulties finally succeeded in establishing a worldwide known news agency.

In recognition of his meritorious services as the pioneer of an international news agency in Japan, the government appointed him a member of the House of Peers some years ago.

It will be recalled that "Dentsu" transferred its News Department to the Domei news service in June 1936.—Reuter.

Suma Departs to Assume Spain Post

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

Mr. Yakichiro Suma, former Director of the Foreign Office Information Bureau and *ex officio* spokesman, newly appointed Japanese Minister to Spain, left Yokohama this afternoon aboard the Nitta Maru for San Francisco to assume his post at Madrid.—Domei.

Saionji Heir Assumes Late Genro's Title

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

Mr. Hachiro Saionji, heir to the late Prince Kimmochi Saionji, will assume the late Genro's title, it was officially announced here today.—Domei.

Interest in Russia-Japan Negotiations

FROM PERCY WHITLING
N.C.D.N. Special Correspondent in Japan

Tokyo. Dec. 28.

Since Russo-Japanese affairs are an important factor in the world situation and much attention is focussed on current negotiations between Tokyo and Moscow. It is believed possible that surprising developments might emerge from these negotiations. The temporary fisheries agreement concluded last year stipulated that a permanent pact be negotiated this year, but the fact that this has not yet been done is arousing attention.

The "Miyako" alludes to what well-informed observers have suspected for some time, namely that Russia is unwilling to conclude a new pact without first denouncing the Portsmouth Pact which it regards as a disgraceful relic of the Czarist régime. The "Miyako" adds that Japan is not necessarily adamant in finding methods of re-adjusting relations with Soviet Russia should the latter respect her vested interests.

The same may be said regarding Japan's petroleum concessions in Saghalin. It will be recalled that when Mr. Hirota was in office the proposal came up that Japan should buy North Saghalin from Russia.

Australian Manchoukuo Envoys See Emperor

Tokyo. Dec. 24.

Mr. Li Shao-keng, newly appointed Manchoukuo Ambassador to Japan, and Sir John Greig Latham, first Australian Minister to Japan, presented their credentials when they received an Imperial audience this morning, it was announced.

Both envoys subsequently were granted an audience by the Empress. It will be recalled that Mr. Li formerly was Minister of Communications and traded posts with Mr. Yuan Chen-tuo, former Ambassador to Japan. Sir John Latham, formerly was Chief Justice of the Australian Commonwealth.—Domei.

U.S. Born Japanese to Fight for Japan

Tokyo, Dec. 27.

The arrival here of a youthful American-born Japanese to join Japan's air force so he can bomb Chungking was given great prominence today by the vernacular press. Mr. Deoto Narimatsu, 20-year-old Japanese who was born in San Jose, California, arrived here abroad the Kamakura Maru.

The Japanese press reported that he intends to enlist in the Japanese Navy's air wing and aid the fliers who have been bombing Chungking.

He is a graduate of the California Flying School, in which there are five Chinese students despatched there by Chungking, the Japanese press said.

The Japanese journals quoted Mr. Narimatsu as saying that rather than remain in the United States and be conscripted he preferred to return to his mother country and enlist in its air force and fly in China.—United Press.

Japanese Government War Honours List

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

The 31st War Honours List has been announced by the Japanese Government according posthumous honours to 2,757 officers and soldiers, civilian employees of the War Office and railwaymen who were killed in action or died of illness in North, Central and South China between July 12, 1937, and April 4, 1940.

This brings up the number of recipients of Japanese war honours since April 1938 to some 1,000 officers and men of the Army and 3,718 officers and ratings of the Navy.

It is understood that the list of posthumous honours in connection with the China Affair has been completed with this 31st announcement, and that therefore the War Honours List for returned soldiers will be announced next year, possibly starting in January.—Reuter.

Tokyo to Redeem Sterling Bonds

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

The Ministry of Finance on January 1 will redeem £162,190 worth of 5.5 per cent. Sterling bonds, and on January 10 will also redeem £293,875 worth of six per cent. Sterling bonds, both purchased in London since July this year. The purchasing prices of these two lots in Japanese currency were Y.1,251,593 and Y.2,001,063, respectively.—Domei.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

Shanghai Spends Christmas

Church Services Well-Attended ; Amusement Places Crowded ; Varied Radio Programmes

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

THE celebration of Christmas, 1940, by the international Christian community of Shanghai was consistent with the observances of the occasion in previous years, although the celebrations were more repressed among members of Allied countries many of whom spent a quiet Christmas at home and donated the money for an "out-of-doors" party to the war fund. The recent evacuation of a number of American women also made its presence felt, there being an appreciably smaller number of diners out. Many, however, stepped out after dinner and the amusement places, cinemas and other resorts were thronged with merry-makers at a late hour.

Church services were well attended. Special midnight services and masses on Christmas eve were held in almost all of the Christian churches throughout the city. Special services also were held on Christmas morning. In the religious observances the true significance of Christmas was expressed and the carols were sung with the usual excellence.

Gaiety reigned at the amusement places. Many of the guests lingered until the early hours of the morning.

Radio Programmes

The radio provided the last, but not least form of entertainment for the populace. At 7 p.m. on Christmas Day listeners who turned in on the B.B.C. were hopeful of a good reception of the King's Christmas Message and the Empire Broadcast. The 11 a.m. broadcast of news and the subsequent "Question of the Hour Talk" came through at this time with crystal-like clarity, but towards 8 p.m. atmospheric conditions rendered the reception poor. Conditions did not improve and many who had waited for the King's message were disappointed at the quality of the reception.

The B.B.C. radio entertainment "Christmas Under Fire" was delivered in the afternoon and was repeated in the evening and listeners were not disappointed for tuning in. On the contrary the broadcast from various places at the "front" more than lived up to expectations. The realization was brought home to many of the listeners of the contrast between what is going on at Home and here.

Shanghai spent Christmas under ideal weather conditions. Although it was a snowless Christmas, Shanghailanders were grateful that the drizzle which had set in two days before, had not persisted.

U.S. Marines Entertain

The Officers of the U.S. Fourth Marines here had a "Get-Together" party on Christmas morning at the Enlisted Men's Club and presents were given to all. The officers of the U.S.S. Luzon were invited. The affair was well attended by U.S. naval officers in this district.

More than 100 poor Russian children were entertained by the officers and men in the mess in Regimental headquarters at dinner on Christmas Day and every child present was the recipient of a present. A collection was made for a fund to purchase suitable gifts for the families of need, Americans here.

Charitable organizations also were busy throughout the city. The Salvation Army issued Christmas cheer to 120 destitute foreign families in three sections. A married couple with one child got $25, with two children $30 and three or more $40. Cash was given this year instead of Christmas parcels, as it was thought that this would prove a more suitable gift.

The Salvation Army provided Christmas cheer at many centres all over the city on Christmas Day. At the Men's Shelter a tiffin was given consisting of roast beef and plum pudding. Similar meals were provided at many other points. The poorest of the city also were taken care of by many other charitable organizations here.

Mr. L. C. Healey, Superintendent of Education, is retiring on May 31.

Cathedral Carols Appreciated

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

For more years than the present writer is able to number, it has been an established custom of Holy Trinity Cathedral to hold an annual Carol Service in connection with the festival of Christmas. Until comparatively recently the service took place several days before Christmas itself and was repeated on the evening of the Sunday following; two or three years ago, however, a feeling manifested itself that it would be more suitable that both renderings be given prior to Christmas Day and arrangements were made accordingly. The change has been found advantageous in all respects.

Looking back on the two services held on Sunday and Monday evening, one's feelings are that the most unstinted praise is due all those who took the leading share of the renderings, and that both of these renderings undoubtedly ranked among the very best of those given in recent years. Undoubtedly the individual members of the large congregations who participated must have been imbued with the feeling that, despite the deeply troubled situation with which the world is now contending and the vicissitudes of the struggle with the powers of darkness, nothing could have been more uplifting and encouraging than to unite wholeheartedly at this time of year in the worship of the Holy Child, both in song and prayer. The hearty congregational singing testified in itself to this being the case, while the organist and choir led the praise in a manner which has seldom if ever been excelled in the Cathedral or elsewhere in Shanghai.

Credit to Organist

For this, the greatest credit must be accorded to the work put in by the Cathedral's tirelessly painstaking and enthusiastic organist and choirmaster, Mr. L. H. Barton, who was entirely responsible for the selection of the musical portion of the service He made a point of its being very largely of a congregational nature, embracing as it did no less than seven items in which those in the pews were expected to join. These were the hymns and carols "Once in Royal David's city," "The first Nowell the Angel did say", "Good King Wenceslas looked out" "God rest you merry, gentlemen," While Shepherds Watched their flocks by Night," "O come, all ye faithful" and "Hark! the Herald Angels sing"—a selection which surely could not possibly have been improved upon from the congregation's point of view.

Six very pleasing unaccompanied carols were delightfully rendered by the choir, in several of which portions were allotted to soloists of both sexes, all of whom acquitted themselves excellently. Then there was a glorious anthem composed by Walford Davies and entitled "When Christ was Born to Earth", which proved itself one of the outstanding features of the whole service. The final verse, one of the lines of which proclaims that "the dark night is ending and dawn has begun" was rendered with an uplifting measure of vim and vigour.

Organ Number

There was only one purely organ number—"A Christmas Pastorale" by Luard-Selby—exquisitely rendered by Mr. Barton. Its basic theme is a sweet little melody representing a shepherd's piping in the fields by night, and which is given out on flute-like stops of the organ. It occurs again and again, interspersed with parts of well-known hymn tunes such as "Corde Natus" and "Adeste Fideles". In bygone years Mr. R. C. Young often made use of this piece at these Christmas services; Mr. Barton also did so just a year ago, and expressed the opinion that he "really ought to have given it a rest this year," with which dictum the writer cordially disagreed.

Another pleasing feature of the service was the reading of two of the Scripture Lessons by a chorister, Master E. M. Evans of the Cathedral School, and a choirman, Mr. P. W. Bennett of the Western District Public School, both of whom did their part in quite exemplary fashion. Mention also must be made of the very beautiful "Bidding Prayer", sympathetically read by the Rev. E. J. Ottewell during the early part of the service. A selection of hymn tunes, carols and chime changes was given from the belfry both before and after the service. The total offerings were in the neighbourhood of $1000.

Altogether, a very worthly effort. —D. MACD.

Police Christmas Party

Police in Chengtu Road Station held a Christmas party on Christmas Day. The picture shows some of those present. They include Inspr. T. Hill, Superintendent R. Conduit, Assistant Commissioner V. Sharman, and Major K. M. Bourne, Commissioner of Police.

Marines, Italians in Cabaret Fight

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

A free-for-all staged at the Majestic Ballroom at about 11 p.m. on Christmas Eve landed nearly 25 members of the U. S. Marines and Navy and Italian servicemen in their service hospitals, some of them suffering from severe injuries, while one of the Italians, it was reported yesterday, had succumbed to his injuries. This, however, could not be confirmed.

The fight, one of the biggest ever staged in any cabaret here, involved about 100 persons, following an argument between an American seaman and an Italian sailor in the hall of the ballroom. The misunderstanding did not go beyond words and the two parted.

Later, however, when the American returned to the cabaret, he was seen by the Italian, who, it is said, pointed him out to his friends, with the result that the latter attacked him, while American Marines present were not long in helping their friend in distress.

During the fight, an Italian warrant officer was seen to pull out a service revolver, but he was grabbed by an American sailor and pushed out of the ballroom. It was said that he fell through a window and sustained serious injuries.

The fight lasted only twenty minutes, the arrival of American and Italian patrols putting a stop to the fracas, after Sikh members of the International Settlement Police had failed to do so. The injured servicemen were taken to hospital.

The Majestic Ballroom was perhaps the heaviest loser of the fight, the management sustaining a loss of approximately $5,000 in unpaid chits and broken furniture The loss, however, will be paid for by the Italian authorities who, it is reported, have apologized to the Americans for the incident and have promised to pay for the damages.

The fight was not without its comic side, some of the cabaret patronizers, eager to avoid unnecessary trouble, hiding under tables or in far away corners. One of the dance hostesses was roughly pushed against a bass drum, while others shrieked for help as the fight grew in ferocity. The timely arrival of the patrols put an end to a sorry episode.

'82 Die While Shanghai Revellers Dance

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

In a critical tone, the Chinese press points out a big contrast between the rich and poor on Christmas eve in Shanghai. All Chinese ballrooms are said to have been crowded to capacity with Chinese pleasure seekers and celebrants and the incomes of the ballrooms on that night alone are said to amount to well over $1,000,000. On the same night, 82 bodies were picked up from streets in the Settlement by the Shanghai Public Benevolent Cemetery.

Without mentioning the income of cabaret girls, the report estimates that the seven leading ballrooms here each received an income ranging between $25,000 and $30,000 on Christmas eve alone. There are about 30 second class Chinese ballrooms each earning an income of about $10,000. It is made clear that night clubs and gambling houses are not counted.

Among the 82 bodies picked up on Christmas eve, only 23 were those of adults. On Christmas day, 32 dead adults and 47 dead children were collected by the cemetery.

Enjoyable Holiday Entertainment

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

A very enjoyable holiday entertainment and tea party was given yesterday at St. Joseph's Institution, which was enthusiastically received by the children honoured and, as well by a large number of patrons and friends.

The girls gave an interesting programme of singing and sketches, one, not easily forgotten, was entitled "The Sunshine Hospital," where the doctor cured everything with a smile. Between each turn there was a distribution of gifts for the children. After the entertainment a word of thanks was given by one girl in French, and by another in English and then the children enjoyed a Christmas, tea while visitors were served tea in another room. The decorations were exceptionally attractive with festoons of paper all the colours of the rainbow, sunflowers, stars, holly and a large Christmas tree covered with small electric lights.

Among those attending were:—

Fathers F. Salvini, Lorando, and Grootjans, Lady Clark Kerr; Mr. A. H. George, H.M. Consul-General; Mme Van Cutsen, Sir Robert Calder-Marshall; Mme de Margerie, Dr. and Mrs. and Miss J. Patrick; Helen Little; Mme Clearce, C. Velliot; Mr. R. L. Stuart; Miss Hilary; Mme Ducoudray et Yves; Mme Bouvier; Miss Harris; the Misses Allan; Mme Jourdan; Mme Courtils; A. Royere; Mr. and Mrs. Agurai Campos; Clotilde Caminada; the Misses Todd; Brother John and Brother Canice, and Pierrette et Jeanne Berthet.

Musical Service Held At the Cathedral

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

A beautiful Christmas musical service was held in the Holy Trinity Cathedral yesterday and the day before, when a number of carols were included in the service, being ably rendered by the full choir. Dean Trivett and the Rev. E. J. Ottewell officiated throughout the services, which were well attended, the Cathedral being packed on both days.

The service opened with "Once in Royal David's," the Processional Hymn, sung by the choir and congregation, being followed a Bidding Prayer. The first carol, "The First Nowell," perhaps one of the best known Christmas carols, was also sung by the choir and congregation. The First Lesson was read by a chorister.

Three carols, "A Spotless Rose," "Say O Shepherds, Whom Saw Ye?" and "Lullay My Liking" came next, being followed by the Second Lesson. "Good King Wenceslas" was sung with gusto, the complete version being given. An Anthem and "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" preceded the Third Lesson. Four more carols and a Christmas Pastorale on the organ were followed by "O Come, All Ye Faithful," during which the collection was taken. The collection is to be donated to the Cathedral Chair and Organ Fund. The service ended with "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," the congregation joining the choir in this Recessional Hymn.

No Change in Situation In Western Area

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

Mr. G. Godfrey Phillips, Secretary and Commissioner-General of the Shanghai Municipal Council, yesterday stated that the position regarding the negotiations over the policing rights of the western area was the same as it was two or three weeks ago. He said that there was no change in the situation.

Marine Officers Club Christmas at Home

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

The President and members of the Mercantile Marine Officers' Club were at home to their friends on Friday last approximately 60 guests and members of the Club being present.

Due to the fact that so many members are at present engaged upon war, or national auxiliary service, the attendance was not so large as in former years but, none the less, the affair was an enjoyable social function.

The guests included the Consular representatives of Denmark, Great Britain, and Norway; His Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces; the Chairman of the S.M.C.; the Harbour Master and his Assistant; the heads and prominent officials of the leading shipping and mercantile hongs; the church and the law also being represented.

Guests on arrival were welcomed by the President, Captain S.P. Jorgensen, who, in a few well-chosen words, bade them welcome, officers of the club attending to the distribution of refreshments, etc.

A recherche cold collation had been provided of which guests and members partook on the "Simon Styles self-help" principle, the entire function throughout being informal.

Ladies Present

Although ostensibly a "stag party," several ladies graced the proceedings with their presence, several members being deputed to attend to their entertainment in the club library, the sterner Sex, for the most part, remaining in the bar and the billiard room.

Towards the close of the proceedings, the President of the club, in a few well-chosen words called upon all present to raise their glasses and drink to the prosperity of the Merchant Service, coupling with it the Senior Service, of which today so many men of the Merchant Service form a part, others "proceeding on their lawful occasions" in the various national auxiliary services.

He was sure, he added, that although so many members of the Club were absent on service, each and all would be with them in spirit as this gathering was one of the traditions of the old club, which had existed under various names, for over seventy years.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm and marked the termination of an extremely enjoyable affair.

Firm Position of Chinese Banks

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

Despite the war of resistance and the changed situation, Chinese banks in Shanghai are enjoying a firm position and are ready to welcome the new year with confidence. A review of Chinese reports published by leading Chinese dailies reveal that the institutions have ample means at their disposal and that their position is even better than that during the previous year.

Commencing tomorrow the banks will be closed for three days having completed calculating the year's interest on deposits of various kinds. The situation is entirely in favour of the Chinese banks here, it is said. Following the outbreak of the European conflict, there has been a flight of capital from Hongkong to Shanghai and as a result, so much money has been sent here that the banks have had to reduce interest. But there have been no withdrawals of deposits on a large scale despite the interest reduction.

Much cash has been absorbed by Government banks following the reduction of interest on deposits by commercial institutions and an upward trend has been followed in the government bond market. The recent British and American credits granted to China, it is stated, have further strengthened the Chinese dollar and speculators have been much discouraged.

Rice Investigation by Authorities Urged

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

Chinese evening papers unanimously urged the authorities in Shanghai to investigate carefully the godowns here where rice is stored and to find out the persons who actually hoard the grain. It was said that it was the only way to stop hoarding and to reduce prices. In doing so, it was insisted, the authorities should "save the face" of big merchants or well known persons.

Besides investigating the quantity and owners, the time when the purchases were made and prices should also be investigated. The rice stored in godowns should be sold publicly as soon as possible otherwise there would be no hope for reducing prices.

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Japanese Demand More Councillors

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Greater Japanese representation in the Shanghai Municipal Council, in preportion to the number of Japanese residents in and around the International Settlement, which now exceeds 80,000, was demanded by Mr. Yukichi Hayashi, President of the Japanese Ratepayers' Association, in a lengthy statement in which he significantly remarked that the Japanese no longer could remain unconcerned with the administration of the Settlement.

Eighty-thousand Japanese are living in and around the International Settlement, Mr. Hayashi pointed out in his statement, which was issued on the occasion of the inauguration of the Japanese Ratepayers' Association. The administration of the Settlement, he stressed, greatly affects the lives of these 80,000.

Japanese, Mr. Hayashi went on, are not in the least satisfied with the "unfair state" of the Settlement administration, alleging that the British, whose number totals not more than 7,000, have five representatives on the Municipal Council and are thus able to "monopolize" the Settlement's administration.

Proportionate Representation

Demanding proportionate representation, Mr. Hayashi declared that the right to participate in the Settlement's administration should be allotted to the various national groups in accordance with their numbers. Although British nationals formed the largest group among the foreigners when the Settlement was first established, they should not be allowed to have a majority in the Municipal Council, and to dictate the Settlement's administration today when the situation in Shanghait is completely changed, Mr. Hayashi declared.

Demand for a larger Japanese representation in the Municipal Council, Mr. Hayashi stressed, is natural in view of the fact that the Sino-Japanese conflict still is in progress and Japanese political interests in and around Shanghai are inseparably connected with strategic considerations.

Without Japanese co-operation a smooth execution of Settlement administration cannot be hoped for, and moreover the Settlement's administration directly affects the Japanese campaign against the Chungking régime, he emphasized.

Objectives Defined

The objectives of the Japanese Ratepayers' Association were defined by the head of the new organization as four-fold, including a fundamental re-examination of the Land Regulations, the municipal election laws, the Council's financial system and also the Council's taxation system.

In announcing the objectives of the Ratepayers' Association, Mr. Hayashi denounced the make-shift policy adopted by the Municipal Council in meeting its financial difficulties.

In conclusion, Mr. Hayashi stressed that the welfare of the Chinese, who form the great majority of the inhabitants of the Settlement, should not be ignored. He added that when the Nanking Government is able to maintain peace and order, the Settlement should be "returned" to that government. The Association, he declared, is willing to co-operate with the Nanking Government in regaining its sovereign rights.—Domei.

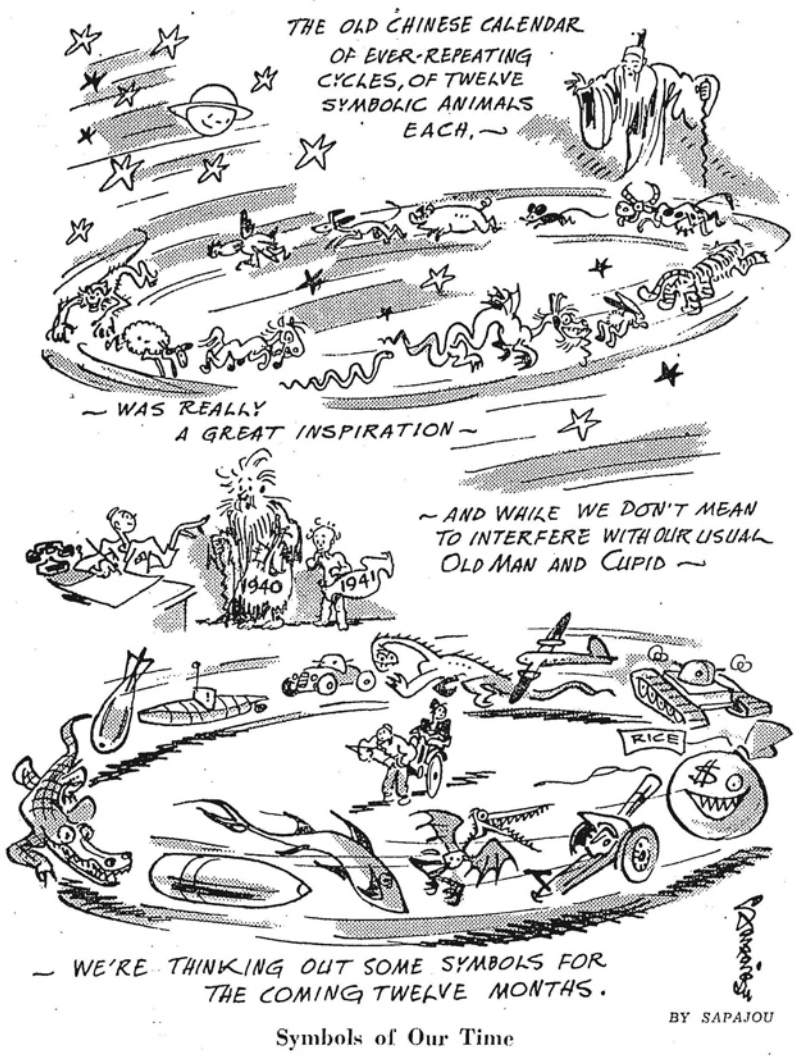
Hotel Pacific Holds Grand Opening

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

The Hotel Pacific held its grand opening at the C. U. A. Building on Bubbling Well Road yesterday, numerous prominent visitors attending the function. This hotel forms the twelfth link in a chain of hotels and restaurants operated by the Hotel and Restaurant Syndicate of Canton, Hongkong and Macao. The hotel, which has been magnificently renovated, was formerly operated by the China United Apartments.

It is ideally situated opposite the Race Course, having nine floors, five of which are devoted to the hotel proper. Over 100 rooms, with private baths and telephones are provided. On the eighth and ninth floors are situated the decorated banquet hall, ballroom and restaurant. The Chinese restaurant is richly styled in ancient Chinese palace style, by imported artisans from Peiping. The food served is expected to satisfy the most discriminating palate, the very best chefs having been engaged.

The reception room, the China Travel Service, bar and tea room are conveniently placed on the ground floor for visitors and guests. Excellent arrangements and appointments, the courteous service of the staff represent a truly modern hotel, meeting the challenge of some of the best the Western world can produce.



Symbols of Our Time

Britons in Bomb Outrage

Fragments of Missile Pass Through Car; Seven Chinese Injured in Attack on Nanking Paper

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

FRAGMENTS of a hand-grenade thrown at the "Ping Pao" last night narrowly missed Messrs. R. S. Heaney and H. R. Cleland (President of St. Andrew's Society), pieces of the bomb tearing through the car in which they were travelling. One fragment came through the roof of the car and hurled past Mr. Cleland's face, oing out of a side window.

Interviewed by the "North-China Daily News" last night, Mr. Heaney said that had he and Mr. Cleland been leaning forward in their seats the fragments would have struck them. Seven Chinese were injured by other pieces of the bomb and one is detained at St. Luke's Hospital for treatment.

The bomb actually exploded outside an oil-shop at 440 Foochow Road, the "Ping Pao" being situated two doors away. All the first floor windows of the building were shattered and, although there was a detachment of police in the neighbourhood, they were unable to do anything, since it is believed that the bomb was thrown from a passing motor car. About two months ago a bomb was thrown at the paper, injuring a policeman. The "Ping Pao" has Nanking sympathies, and it is therefore believed that Chungking terrorists are responsible for the outrage.

"Colossal Explosion"

Mr. Heaney told how he was driving west on Foochow Road with Mr. Cleland, and a chauffeur, when they heard a colossal explosion opposite them, on the right hand side of the car. They instinctively ducked to the floor, and then leaned back. Fragments of the bomb, which was later identified by the police as of the potato-masher type, tore into the body-work of the car, and one piece came through the roof and passed out of the window, narrowly missing Mr. Cleland's face.

The chauffeur was momentarily dazed, but regained control of his vehicle and drove off. Mr. Heaney added that he looked back, but could see nothing. When the car was examined later it was found that four pieces of the bomb had penetrated the body, making long slits in the metal. The car was being driven to the Race Course and the chauffeur carried on down the road until instructed to drive to Gordon Road Police Station where the incident was reported.

At the time of the bombing there was a line of cars travelling west, and it is thought that the missile was thrown from one of these, although no definite conclusion can be established. Of the seven injured Chinese four were rickshaw coolies, the other three being pedestrians.

No Trace of Terrorists

It is believed that the bomb was thrown too soon to injure a policeman who was on duty outside the "Ping Pao" office. On the last occasion when the paper was bombed a constable was badly injured, having his leg nearly blown off. The bomb hit the oil-shop about four feet above the front door, fragments flying in all directions. The weapon was established as being a Mills bomb, and not a home-made affair, as was first thought. Although a police cordon was immediately thrown round the district no trace could be found of the terrorists, which leads to the belief that they were travelling in a car.

A GANG of eight men, four of whom were armed with pistols, were $6,000 richer after they had raided a Chinese dwelling at 15 Sing Ping street at 11 a.m. on Dec. 27. The robbers intimidated the occupants and cleaned the place of all cash and valuables, escaping long before the case was reported to the Police.

Sunday's Concert At Lyceum

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

Undoubtedly the high light of last Sunday's concert was the Vincent D'Indy Symphony "Sur un Chant Montagnard Francais." Why it should have been called a symphony instead of a concerto is a puzzle. For in its form it is far more of the original conception of a concerto than are most of those that we know as such. The piano part is an organic whole with the orchestra and not, as are the works of Liszt, Schumann and Chopin, a vehicle for showing off the prowess of the soloist.

This work, as the programme notes told us, is based throughout on a single subject and as such its composition must have been strenuously dificult. Anyone who has attempted musical composition will realize the complexity of this feat for nowhere does the symphony degenerate into repetition, into dulness or into irrelevant development nor is it a series of variations. Throughout it retains the exquisite beauty and freshness of the *cor anglais'* initial shepherd theme. The essence of the work is in the tone colouring and in the immensely interesting and complicated rhythms. The last movement was a kaleidoscopic *animato* in which mood and colour changed as rapidly as the ear could assimilate. The final section of this movement was a mastery of masked rhythm under a canopy of violently accentuated time beats or pulsations from the string section.

The orchestra was good though too often its playing was wooden, particularly in the moderato. Mr. Robert Kohner was excellent. In particular I liked his complete familiarity with the music and his meticulous attention to Maestro Paci's beat with the result that every note he played, apart from a few that were false, was in thorough harmony with the conductor's interpretation. Had the orchestra been half as watchful and competent the performance would have been first-class.

The rest of the programme suffered in comparison. The "Unfinished Symphony" is over familiar to the average concert-goer though Sunday's performance was goodish. While "The Wanderer Fantasia" is at the best a pianist's show piece and at the worst dull and tedious. It was once said of this work that "the first hour and a half was very fine" which to my mind is cruel but fair comment. Mr. Kohner played with more sympathy than accuracy yet how few people realize that inaccuracy is a mild fault compared with an inability on the part of the performer to understand his music.—G.H.

Japanese Extend Area Of Blockade

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Extension of the Japanese "peaceful blockade" to include Suitung, Tienpak, Lungmun, and Hailing harbours and their neighbouring waters along the south-western coast of Kwangtung Province on the ground of military necessity was announced yesterday morning in a proclamation issued by Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese China Seas Fleet.

Blockade of the additional areas, which was notified yesterday to foreign diplomatic representatives in Shanghai and to the Maritime Customs authorities through the Japanese Consul-General, will become effective after midnight on Wednesday.

Specified as included in the Japanese blockade are:—Hailing harbour and the neighbouring Deep Bay area bounded by the line connecting Taica Point, Nampang Island, and Songyuitsui.

Suitung and Tienpak harbours and their vicinity bounded by the line connecting Sieho Point, Taifungkoh and Ankangshan.

Lungmun and Pakhoi harbours and the neighbouring waters bounded by the line connecting Kwantau Point and Cape Paklung.

All vessels, the proclamation stated, will be prohibited from entering the above-mentioned areas, and should any vessel attempt to enter these areas disregarding the blockade, she will be held by the Japanese naval force as in the case of the Japanese blockade announced last July 15.

The Japanese Navy will not be responsible for any direct or indirect damage to vessels and their crews which enter or leave these areas after the blockade is enforced, it was announced.

Shutling Off Supplies

A Japanese spokesman described these operations—says Domei—dealing with attacks on the Chekiang Kiangsi supply route, suspension of commodity transport to Chungking through the Kwangchow Bay area near the French Indo-China coast, and Hongkong, destruction of important bridges along the Burma Road, and Japanese naval activities along the Central and South China coast which commenced following announcements of the blockade last July 15 and August 10.

Explaining the situation leading to the latest action in blockade measures, the spokesman said the Chungking régime attacked great importance to supplies flowing through South China ports, while non-treaty ports were opened in a desperate attempt to secure additional supplies.

Since traffic of Third Power vessels and junks at Yeungkong, Tienpak, Suitung, Pakhoi and Lungmun has become heavy, and the supplies going through these areas are increasing enormously, new Japanese naval operations have become necessary. Amount of supplies going through could not possibly be overlooked, added the spokesman.

Employees of Hospital Present Demands

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

With the high cost of living increasing daily and more and more demands being presented to the managements of various factories and other concerns, Shanghai faces another strike unless the representations of the Ste. Marie Hospital's employees for better pay are not met by the directorate of the hospital.

More than 150 employees of the hospital met on Sunday and elected seventeen representatives to hold conversations with the management of the hospital for better conditions, eight points being stressed by the workers. These include fifty per cent. increase on their pay for those earning the lowest salaries, and thirty per cent. for those receiving more. Another demand is for half a picul of rice for each person.

The workers also ask for double pay at the end of the year, house allowance, no reduction in pay should they fall ill, half a month's rest once a year, better food, and no dismissal of any employee without good reason.

The employees have expressed their willingness to continue their work pending the results for their demands which, they say, have been presented because of the impossibility to make both ends meet on the salary they have been receiving in the past. No reply has so far been given by the management of the hospital.

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SHANGHAI NEWS (*continued*)

£8,500 Needed by January 15

Local Britons Called Upon to Make Special Effort As Air War Most Likely to Be Intensified Soon

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

EIGHT thousand five hundred pounds are urgently needed if Shanghai is to maintain its record of the past four months of remitting £10,000 monthly Home through the Voluntary War Contribution Fund, the list of acknowledgements just issued revealed. To date only £1,500 have been received from December 15, being approximately £1,000 less than at this time last month.

With all the probability that the war in the air will be intensified in the near future local Britons will have to "Give Till It Hurts" and make every possible sacrifice to help ensure the ultimate victory. Every penny is needed today for the purchase of more planes. The latest list of acknowledgements follows:—

DOLLAR ACCOUNT

Subscriptions received since last list $52,973
Transferred to Sterling since last list $52,973
Nil

STERLING ACCOUNT

Balance brought forward £10,117
Subscriptions received since last list 652
Transferred from $ a/c since last list 781
£11,552
Remitted to H. M. Treasury ... 10,000
£ 1,552

Mr. and Mrs. K. F. Piper £10
Tientsin Remittance 300
British Residents—Swatow 105
Veritas Co. (F.E.) Ltd. 2
K. Selby Walker 20
Mrs. Evelyn Edwards 20
N. C. MacGregor 100
Inniss & Riddle (China) Ltd. 10
Some Members of S'hai Telephone Co.:—
F. G. Welch 3
J. C. R. Wells-Henderson 4
Mr. and Mrs. W. Mellor, in lieu of Christmas Cards 2
N. H. Lacey, for ungiven Christmas Presents 5
Sissinghurst Kent 2
Miss M. A. Fair 5
Rev. W. H. Hudspeth 4
J. T. J. ....2 R. H. Robertson .5
C. R. W. Alford 10 A. I. McOwan ...3
G. H. S. Fewkes .1 V. G. Bowden ..10
Anonymous .....4 S. M. Carlisle ..5
Anonymous .....10 J. E. Andrews ..4
Anonymous 5
Chungking Remittance $3,365
Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Read 200
W. C. Gomersall 5,000
In memory of the late W. E. Holland, Board of Governors and Members of the Columbia Country Club 20
Anonymous ....100 C. H. B. Joly ..250
Anonymous .....50 J. K. Storrs ..150
A. P. Finch ...100 J. A. B. 100
B. M. B. 25
Precious Metals Group, B. R. A. War Efforts Sub-Committee:—
Mrs. D. E. J. Abraham 66
Mrs. A. T. Stubbs 130
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. May 22
Mrs. A. B. Trueman 156
Mrs. K. S. Mackenzie 42
Mrs. H. E. Harris 29
Mrs. E. S. Elliston 62
Mrs. H. D. M. Robertson 37
Mrs. Anhold Jones 62
Mrs. Talbot (3rd) 77
Mrs. G. A. Haley 227
F. E. Perry ....218 K. W. J. 19
G. E. Clarke ...18 T. J. Evans 5
G. D. J. ......468 F. K. A. C. 41
Mrs. Poate ......21 R. R. Smith 44
J. B. Brown ...123 D. F. Watson ...34
A. P. Bazer ....543 J. Henry 17
2,471

Mrs. A. Stubbs, in lieu of X'mas Cards 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Stubbs, in lieu of X'mas Cards 50
F.N.M./R.S.H. 50
Mr. and Mrs. Jan Den Berg, in lieu of X'mas Cards 25
Flower Show Prize Money 10
Mr. and Mrs. H. Watton, in lieu of X'mas Cards and Cocktail Party 200
Some British Members of the Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd. Staff 1,060
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth MacLeod 20
Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Barton 250
Joseph and Jacob 35
James H. Taylor 650
Shanghai Homing Pigeon Club, Farewell Party to C. J. Bull .. 50
Camshron Family 200
Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Bridger, in in lieu of Christmas Cards and Presents 250
Instead of Entertaining
Mr. and Mrs. J. A. A. 50
Mr. and Mrs. C. H. A. 50
Mr. and Mrs. I. M. A. 50
Mr. and Mrs. H. A. 50
Mr. and Mrs. E. L.-A. 50
Mr. and Mrs. V. H. B. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. B. 50
Mr. and Mrs. H. B. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. C. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. G. C. 50
Mr. and Mrs. E. G. C. 50
Mr. and Mrs. N. M. C. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. E. C. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. D. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. L. D. 50
Mr. and Mrs. F. R. D. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. E. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. E. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. S. F. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. E. F. 50
Mr. and Mrs. F. J. H.-F. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. 50
Mr. and Mrs. S. T. G. 50
Mr. and Mrs. R. J. G. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. G. 50
Mr. and Mrs. P. W. G. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. R. H. 50
Mr. and Mrs. F. H. 50
Mr. and Mrs. H. C. H. 50
Mr. and Mrs. E. L. H. 50
Mr. and Mrs. H. M. H. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. H. 50
Capt and Mrs. J. T. I. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. R. J. 50
Capt. and Mrs. C. J. 50
Mr. and Mrs. R. K. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. K. 50
Mr. and Mrs. E. K. 50
Mr. and Mrs. L. H. L. 50
Mr. and Mrs. H. M.-L. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. C. L. 50
Mr. and Mrs. C. F. L. 50
Mr. and Mrs. C. L. 50
Mr. and Mrs. E. A. G. M. 50
Mr. and Mrs. C. J. M. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. M. 50
Mr. and Mrs. R. M.-A. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. R. McB. 50
Mr. and Mrs. P. N. 50
Mr. and Mrs. L. A. O. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. P. 50
Mr. and Mrs. H. F. P. 50
Mr. and Mrs. C. W. P. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. P. 50
Mr. and Mrs. D. P. 50
Mons. and Mdme. W. E. R. 50
Mr. and Mrs. S. C. R. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. S. 50
Mr. and Mrs. T. O. S. 50
Mr. and Mrs. V. K. S. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. T. S. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. D. S. 50
Mr. and Mrs. G. H. S. 50
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. S. 50
Mr. and Mrs. B. W. T. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. A. T. 50
Capt. and Mrs. G. S. W. 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. H.-W. 50
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. W. 50
Mr. and Mrs. C. R. M. Y. 50
H. Standring .100 Mr. J. L. 25
J. P. Perry ...150 Miss M. L. 25
J. K. Simpson .505 Mrs. G. M. L. ..25
Vanty K. ....30 Mr. E. S. L. 25
Anonymous P 1,000 Mr. B. L. M. 25
Mr. A. H. G. ..25 Mr. A. M. 25
Mr. H. E. A. ..25 Mr. J. A. M. ..25
Mrs. M. A. .....25 Mr. E. L. O. ...25
Mr. M. M. B. ..25 Mr. F. A. P. ...25
Mr. J. K. B. ...25 Mr. A. P. 25
Mr. P. H. B. ...25 Mr. L. M. P. ...25
Col. J. C. ......25 Miss K. R. 25
Mrs. G. F. C. C. 25 Mr. J. T. R. ...25
Miss K. D. .....25 Mr. I. G. S. ...25
Mrs. M. F. .....25 Mrs. A. S. 25
Mr. J. E. F. ....25 Mr. M. S. 25
Mr. A. H. G. ...25 Sir V. S. 25
Mr. C. B. V. G. .25 Mr. O. G. S. ...25
Mr. P. D. G. ...25 Miss M. S. 25
Mr. G. W. H. ...25 Mr. G. B. S. ...25
Mr. A. B. H. ...25 Mr. L. S. 25
Miss D. H. .....25 Mr. E. G. T. ...25
Miss S. H. ......25 Mr. H. C. B. W. 25
Mrs. C. H. M.-J. 25 Major G. W. ...25
Mr. L. N. J. ....25 Miss M. Y. 25
Mr. N. H. L. ...25 Mrs. G. Z. 25
Miss J. L. 25
4,750

Some Members of the Asiatic Petroleum Co. (N.C.) Ltd., 6th Contribution 9,880
Two B. M. U. Ties 20
M. H. K., X'mas Contribution .. 200
50 per cent. of Proceeds of dramatic entertainment given by some girls this week 422
G. H. Tucker, in lieu of X'mas Cards 30
Jean and Collin, in lieu of X'mas Cards 25
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bee 50
A. de C. and Mrs. C. S. Sowerby 500
Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Harris, in lieu of X'mas Cards 25
Keith and Donald Wells 25
Miss Madeleine C. Munday 100
Mrs. A. A. Boyd, in lieu of X'mas Gifts 300
Mrs. D. J. Boyd, in lieu of X'mas Gifts 300
S/Insp. Swayn's Farewell Party—Hongkew 456
Darts bet—Snod and Black 20
Staff of A. R. Burkill & Sons Ltd. 200
Miss F. A. Walker 100
Directors & Staff of Arnhold Tdg Co., Dec. Cont. 4,217
Members and Friends of "The Cockpit" in memory of "Bill Holland 1,200
130 feet above Hell's Corner 10
Miss Edith Holmes 50
Miss Mary McIlwain 100
Dr. O. Suchanek 20
Miss H. E. F. Withers 100
Mr. and Mrs. A. W. O. Oct./Dec 1940 300
G. F. H. Bichard 1,000
A. H. Merriles 150 K. to M. J. 50
Anonymous ...200 W. G. Cook 10
W. J. Richmond 150 M. H. 10
A. C. R. Nash ..50 M. Robinson 40
J. M. Campbell .50 F. M. M. 50
Sandy ....50 G. Danson 100

In lieu of X'mas Cards, Gifts etc:—

Mr. and Mrs. D. E. J. Abraham and Mrs. R. D. Abraham 200
Aziza and Izaak Abraham 25
H. and E. W. In lieu of X'mas Cards 10
Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Barton In lieu of X'mas Cards 50
Dr. H. L. In lieu of X'mas Cards 20
A Norwegian Friend In lieu of X'mas Cards 100
Mrs. W. C. Bond In lieu of X'mas Cards 200
F. W. Cook ...100 Rev. Ottewell ..25
R. Stanley .....50 Dr. H. L. 20
Bishop Curtis .100

Some Members of the Shanghai Telephone Co.:—

Mrs. E. R. Adam 5
Mrs. R. Arnsberg 10
Miss J. I. Carnaghan 10
Mrs. V. M. Moore 10
J. D. Campbell .50 H. F. Pringle ..30
J. W. Dearn ....40 A. D. Poliak ..10
H. Graham ....40 J. T. Rogers ..100
S. P. Karanjia .10 J. E. Vickery ...5
L. T. Lawrence .30 A. J. Wright ...10
Mrs. H. Piccozzi .30
390

Mr. and Mrs. A. Eveleigh 500
The Carol Singers—Talbot's Place 221
From a Sweep in Cathay Bar . 70
Entente Cordiale 10
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Turner—Monthly Contribution 100
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Turner—Donation 150
Miss M. H. MacGregor 250
Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Sanger 150
Mrs. H. M. Peck—In lieu of X'mas Cards 50
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Fletcher—In lieu of X'mas Cards 25
Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Elliston—In lieu of X'mas Cards 250
Hannah Nissim 1,000 F. J. Sanger ...100
P. A. Emery ..100 C. S. Gubbay 1,000

Pay Troubles Spread to Red Cross Hospital

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

More and more dissatisfaction is being shown by workers of Shanghai's various industrial and other concerns, the latest being a disagreement between the management of the Red Cross Hospital in Avenue Haig and its employees, who went on a short-lived go-slow strike when their demands for better pay were refused by their employers.

The trouble had its origin on December 16 when the employees presented their demands to the management. When no answer came on December 21, they refused to accept the old pay. The management then attempted to avert possible trouble by *increasing* their pay by $2 per mensem, but the workers rejected this offer, and declared a go-slow strike.

Aiming to restore normal conditions in the hospital, the management agreed to an increase of $3 and the workers returned to their jobs, it being reported that they were not satisfied with the increase, but that they wished to take care of the patients. When the management asked the workers to sign a document, in which they would promise not to strike again, the employees of the hospital refused to do so.

Meanwhile, little change was noted on other labour fronts yesterday, the mechanics of the weaving and knitting factories being still on strike, with the result that more than 5,000 women employees were *still idle*. It is known that some of the women are in sympathy with the strikers, although the majority of them would be glad to be back at their work.

The disagreement between tailors in Nanking Road and their employers was ironed out yesterday.

"Le Journal de Shanghai," the only French-language newspaper in this city, continued to appear as a four-sheet daily. It may be recalled that the employees of the paper walked out on December 14 after their demands, which would have raised their pay by approximately 300 per cent., were not met on the spot. The management of the paper, in their reply to the workers, told them that a matter like that could not be discussed within a few minutes and warned the workers that they would consider them as having resigned if they should choose to leave their work.

It was reported by the "Central *Press Service*" that strong representations to the management of the paper would be made by the Social Movement Association, an organization controlled by the Nanking Government.

In memory of Alice Anderson:—
Phyl and Rudy .10 Clara and Rob ..20
Nadia ....10 Mae 20
Flo and Herbert 20
80

Raffle of 2 model yachts by the Shanghai Rowing Club War Efforts League 2,200
Hongkew Station X'mas Eve:—
Craik's Golden Goose 215
The Fours "Haig" 159
B. B.'s Card ...52 Belo's Swindle .12
438

N. Chadderton—In lieu of X'mas Cards 20
C. Williams—In lieu of X'mas Cards 10
E. A. Robert—In lieu of X'mas Cards 20
E. J. Roper—In lieu of X'mas cards 20
J. Shute—In lieu of X'mas Cards 20
G. S. R. Hall—In lieu of X'mas Cards 20
W. R. Chisholm—In lieu of X'mas Cards 20
A. Kouznetsoff—In lieu of X'mas Cards 10
C. A. Butler—In lieu of X'mas Cards 10
W. G. Eaton—In lieu of X'mas cards 10
J. Murray—In lieu of X'mas Cards 10
J. Wallace—In lieu of X'mas Cards 10
C. R. J. Belson—In lieu of X'mas cards 20
R. Simpson—In lieu of X'mas Cards 10
E. Knight—In lieu of X'mas Cards 10
Mrs. A. W. D. Sallis in lieu of Christmas cards 50
E. M. K. for Christmas 150
Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Levis 30
W. A. Powell in lieu of some seasonal conventions 200
Brooch G.S.D./E.H.McM. 10
Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Smith 100
Mr. and Mrs. A. Seaborn 100
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hodjash 200
E. L. D. S. in lieu of Christmas presents 300
Capt. S. Bayes-Davy in lieu of Christmas chocolates, etc. 200
W. C. and D. S. in lieu of Christmas cards 50
Donation in lieu of present 50
Miss Anne Bennett 100
T. K. W. and Y. F. C. 50
Christmas Contribution from L. F. S. 100
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Hickmott in lieu of Christmas cards 50
I. C. M. Pemberton in lieu of Christmas cards 30
H. G. Banham in lieu of Christmas cards 25
Mr. and Mrs. C. F. King in lieu of Christmas cards 50
L. P. P. from L. R. 5
Mr. and Mrs. E. S. K. Ho-Tung 200
J. M. Campbell in lieu of Christmas gift 100
Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Price in lieu of Christmas cards 50
Well Wishers ..40 D. L. Evamy ...50
M. M. ....100 Anonymous 10
B. R. A. ....55 W. B. Nance 7
Anonymous .....75 P. W. Bennett 200
G. K. Knitting ..15 Turkey 18
Anonymous 192

Central British War Fund (Shanghai)

Balance brought forward $1,530,861

MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

A few Members of the Mercantile Marine Officers' Club $235
Anon ....25 D.K. 10
Lupton,Mrs.A.K. 20 Knox,H.C. 5
J.A.S.K. ....35 Read,G.J. 5
Tchchovsky,O.D. 40 Sadler,G. 16
Anon ....50 J.E. 25
Barbey,G.C. .....10 Simpson,J.K. ...25
Berthet,R.A. ....20 Spikins,T. 20
C.B. ....10 Stickels,A.M. ...20
Brown,W.J. .....25 Taylor,R. 20
Cunio,E.C. ......3 Teller,R. 5
Davidson,D.H. ..10 Theobald,C.H. ...10
Eatson,J.W. .....10 Turner,W. 10
Emamooden,S. ...5 Waller,E.H. 5
Graham,A. ......10 Watson,T. 10
Henry,W.C. .....20 Wood,T.H. 10
Keogh,P.G. .....10 Roche,R.W. 10

DONATIONS

E.R.A. Waste Paper Sub-Committee $257
Netherton,Mrs.J. 20
Abraham,D.E.J. 50
Abraham,Mrs.R.D. 25
Shellswell,Mr/Mrs.R. 40
Allan,C.L. and C.W. 20
T.J.E.Mr/Mrs. 200
Bourne,Mr/Mrs.V.H.—in lieu of Xmas cards 100
Duggie Never Owes 150
Trodd,Mr/Mrs.E.G.—in lieu of X'mas cards 50
Proceeds of Ball held on 19/10/40 5th Rover Crew 2,007
Proceeds of Sweep in the Cathay Bar 70
Wenman,S.G.C.—in lieu of X'mas cards 100
Two Little Girls per Union Church 44
Patrick,Miss Erika 20
Linford,J.—in lieu of X'mas cards 25
Bridge Players—The Shanghai Club 471
Lavington,Mr/Mrs.A.T. and Miss —in lieu of X'mas card 50
Wool for Sweater 10
Proceeds of Union Church Women's Guild Fun Fair held in Union Church Hall 7/12/40 2,000
McBain,Mrs.Vera 500
Members of the Shanghai Engineers' Club 253
Eagle & Globe Steel Co., Ltd. —The 2,500
S.V.C. Sergeants' Mess—nett receipts from special rifle competitions held during the current year 150
Zero Club Members in lieu of X'mas cards 900
Peckham, Miss M.—in lieu of X'mas presents 125
Roberts,Mr/Mrs.F.C.—in lieu of X'mas cards 50
Maitland,Mr/Mrs.H.—in lieu of X'mas cards 100
Proceeds of articles made and sold by the British women in Hankow—per Mrs. I. M. Allan 1,098
Abraham,R.D. ..50 Mansfield,Mrs.L. 10
Abraham,E. .....20 Anon 500
M.B.H. ....30 Jones,Fredk,G. .50
Mehta,J.N. ......10 Cornfield,J. ...200
J.A.B. ....25 Stuart Ltd. 50
Longden,P.E. ...25 Anon 200
Vitenson,Mrs.S. .10 L.A.C. 50
F.H. ....100 Anon 50
Lakha Singh ....10 Anon 300
Bet—A.H.M. ....5 Poker Party 20
Charna,M.C. ....25 W.D. 5
No. 69 ....12 Manners,Mrs.A. 250
M.C.W. ....5 A.R.M. 100
Une Française .100 Anonymous P .500
Judah,S.A. .....300 West,Hester D. .100
Manning,G.J. ...20

IN MEMORY OF NORMA, PETER AND MARJORY

Daddy 100

IN MEMORY OF MRS. W. C. BAILEY

Mitchell,Mr/Mrs.G.E. 25

IN MEMORY OF MR. W. E. HOLLAND

Middleton,Hugh 25
Ma Jackson 5
$1,546,277

STERLING

Balance brought forward £22,831

MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Nanking British War Charities Fund 25
Kathleen ....1 Anon 2

DONATIONS

Davidson,Mrs.J.E.O. 10
Members of the Shanghai Engineers' Club 1
Members of the Shanghai Engineers' Club 2
Anon ....5 Anon 2
Anon ....5 Anon 10
Anon ....10 Anon 5
Anon ....5 Anon 6
Anon 10
Anon 2
£22,933

Supt. C. J. Bull Feted By S.M.P. Colleagues

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Many high officers of the Shanghai Municipal Police gathered at the Police Club yesterday at 5.30 p.m. at a farewell presentation party given in honour of Superintendent C. J. Bull, who retires from the force on Boxing Day after more than 27 years of service in the S.M.P.

Mr. Bull joined the force on June 23 1913 and was promoted Sergeant on July 1 1918, gradually rising to his present rank, to which he was promoted on January 1937. For the past four years and a half, Mr. Bull has been in charge of the S.M.P. Quartermaster's Stores.

The presentation was made by Major K. M. Bourne, S.M.P. Commissioner, who made a short address in which he eulogized the services rendered by the retiring officer to the S.M.P. both as a lawkeeper and a sportsman, Mr. Bull having represented the Police in tennis and lawn balls. The veteran Police officer was presented with three pipes in cases suitably inscribed.

Among those present were Captain H. M. Smyth, Deputy Commissioners T. Robertson, H. D. M. Robertson, T. M. Yao, E. C. Baker, Mr. H. E. Alers, Assistant Commissioners G. J. Bennett, R. Sharman, W. J. MacDermott, H. R. Grubb, A. H. Samson, *Superintendents* A. H. Chamberlain, A. J. Toon, D. B. Ross, J. B. Clissold, J. Mason, R. Conduit, R. Shellswell (who had joined the force at the same time with the departing officer) and many other police officers.

New Hospital Inspected

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

The new premises of the Shanghai Public Maternity & Children's Hospital at 995 Connaught Road, were open to inspection this afternoon. Among the large number of visitors were Mr. C. P. Pan, Mrs. Siegrid Fischer, Mr. Ping-Nan Feng and Mr. H. T. Silcock of The Friends Receiving Home for Children, Patrons of the Hospital; Mr. T. C. Pan, Chairman of the Governing Board; Mr. Walter Yue, Treasurer of the Governing Board; Brigadier Mrs. Morris and Mr. P. Y. Tang, members of the committee; Miss Dorothy Behenna from The Friends Receiving Home for Children; Mr. Eric Clarke; Mrs. F. C. Yen, wife of the former minister of public health; and Miss E. M. Adlam a teacher at the Public & Thomas Hanbury School for Girls.

Dr. Dorothy Shen, the Medical Director, is the first woman graduate of Peking Union Medical College and was formerly in charge of The Maternity & Child Health Clinic in Peking.

This hospital commenced as a maternity centre for refugees on Robison Road in June 1938 and later joined with the Emergency Children's Hospital. Although there were considerable repairs and decorating to be done after the present premises were taken over in June this year, regular attention was given to both in and out-patients.

There are forty beds and forty cots, also isolation room, rooms for malnutrition cases of babies up to two years, and about eighty out-patients. No charge is made to patients and in many cases they are given clothing.

Mrs. J. C. Liu has donated a four bed ward, the upkeep of which is $2,000 per annum. Since the hospital was started, the D.A.R. have donated clothing and bedding, The British Fund have donated clothing and medical supplies, the Wing On Textile Co. has given cotton materials and Mrs. Siegfrid Fischer has given furniture as well as clothing and money.

This hospital has a very low maternal mortality rate as compared with other hospitals in different parts of the world. During the period of December 1939 to June 1940 it had a material mortality of only 0.74 per cent.

Students of *mid-wifery are now* being taken in and given practical experience. This is but one of the new branches of work being taken on by the energetic staff.

Police Act to Stamp Out Gambling

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

The determination of the Settlement police to stamp out the evil of gambling in areas under their jurisdiction was shown yesterday in the First Special District Court when nine suspected proprietors, managers and employees of a well organized roulette gambling house in Bubbling Well Road were brought before the tribunal for trial. In view of the complicated nature of the case the judge postponed the hearing *sine die* pending further investigations.

In addition to the nine accused, Settlement police have also arrested a Portuguese who is now being investigated by his consular authorities. The Central police first visited an upstairs room of a ballroom in Weihaiwei Road near Avenue Foch but found no one there. They then visited a house at 1477 in Bubbling Well Road where most of the accused were arrested. Liang Yung, the alleged Cantonese proprietor of the establishment was arrested in Medhurst Road. Liang was hidden under a bed when the police arrived. It was alleged in court that accused might have cooperated with *some foreigners in doing* the business.

J.R.C. Prepare for Own Elections

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

With the general election of Assembly men of the Japanese Residents' Corporation due next March, the organization is now preparing a list of franchise-holders, according to the "Shanghai Mainichi" yesterday.

The list will be compiled on the basis of data which will be collected by December 31. The list will be completed by the middle of January, and will be subjected to an inspection for five days in the beginning of February.

Authorization of the compilation will take place February. Those with rights to vote total 9,932, but are expected to reach 12,000.

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Tokyo Envoy to Nanking Here

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Stressing the fact that the preliminary work in adjustment of relations between Japan and China was already done with the successful conclusion of the basic treaty between the two countries on November 30, Mr. Kumataro Honda, newly appointed Japanese Ambassador to the Nanking Government, who arrived at Shanghai yesterday afternoon en route to assume his post at Nanking, asserted that his mission entailed bringing about closer co-operation between the Japanese and Chinese peoples, in line with the policy outlined in the recently concluded pact.

The new envoy representating the Japanese Government at Nanking yesterday landed at Shanghai from Nagasaki aboard the Kobe Maru at 1.30 o'clock in the afternoon, being met by prominent Japanese and Chinese officials including Mr. Chen Kung-po, Mayor of the Shanghai Special Municipality, and Major-General Genshichi Oikawa, Vice-Director of the Central China Liaison Office, Asia Development Board.

The 66-year-old Japanese Ambassador emphasized that he would discharge his duties to the letter and spirit of the Sino-Japanese Treaty, designed to bring about closer harmony and relations between the Japanese and Chinese for the purpose of mutual prosperity in East Asia.

Smooth Progress Predicted

"Though I am not personally acquainted either with leaders of the National Government' or of Nanking, I am confident that with the assistance of Chinese military and civilian authorities, all points of difficulty will be smoothed over with as little trouble as possible," Mr. Honda told newspapermen following his arrival.

"I shall do my utmost to discharge my duties to the mutual benefit of both Japan and China," declared the new envoy.

"After settling down at Nanking, I may tour North China, and may then return to Tokyo for a visit to report on conditions and my impressions in China," he further said.

After paying homage at the Shanghai Shrine and the Higashi, and Nishi Honganji Temples, Mr. Honda was feted at a welcoming reception held in the Astor House Hotel by Mr. Tateki Horiuchi, Japanese Consul-General at Shanghai.

Japanese Constable Slain By Chinese Robber Gang

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Mr. Satoshi Miyazaki, a constable of the Nantao branch of the Japanese Consular Police, was murdered by three unidentified Chinese last Friday night in an alley in Hsuehhsi Street, the "Tairiku Shimpo" disclosed last evening. Owing to the number of robberies that have taken place in the vicinity of the South Station by a large gang, the police believe the gang responsibile for the crime.

The constable passed the alley at about 8 o'clock on Friday evening when he was suddenly attacked from the rear by the trio with a lethal weapon, believed to have been a meat chopper.

The officer was discovered by a passer-by at 11 p.m. the same night who carried him to a hospital where it was found that he had fifteen slashes on the body. The policeman died soon after being admitted.

Suspects Arrested

Dec. 25.

The Japanese consular police in Nantao have arrested nine suspected robbers in connection with the death of a member of the force which occurred five days ago in a street in the native city after he had put up a strong resistance against a gang armed with knives, according to the "Sin Shun Pao."

Indicating that there is no political importance attached to the affair the report states that the Japanese policeman was attacked by robbers while investigating the whereabouts of the robbers who had often made an appearance in places near the South Railway Station in Nantao. Armed with a stick, the Japanese was walking in the street when he was murderously attacked by a gang of robbers.

He was attacked from behind, judging from the report which states that he was first injured at the back of his head. Despite this injury, he put up a very strong resistance, but then he was stabbed 15 times by the men. He collapsed and shortly after 11 p.m. he was discovered by some pedestrians. He was taken to a hospital where he died.

S.M.C. Chairman Calls on Admiral

Officials of the Shanghai Municipal Council called on Rear-Admiral Risaburo Fujita, Japanese Resident Naval Officer, on December 27. Seen above are: (left to right) Rear-Admiral Fujita, Colonel J. W. Hornby, Commandant of the S.V.C., a naval officer; Major . G. H. Mann, S.V.C. Staff Officer; Mr. W. J. Keswick, chairman of the S.M.C.; and an interpreter. Rear-Admiral Fujita newly appointed.

Better Pay Demanded By Court Employees

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

More demands for better pay were made in the city in the past three days, the latest to be affected being the employees of the Second High Court and First Special District Court in the International Settlement, where unrest is brewing as the employees have had no answer to their three demands, made prior to the current representations.

The high cost of living caused even the judges of the courts to demand more pay, the increases asked being approximately for sixty per cent above their present salary. Other employees are asking for a larger rice allowance.

It was also learned that the Ministry of Justice at Chungking had ordered the judges here to open a public restaurant where the families of court employees could be fed in a wholesome manner at less expense.

The Chinese press reported yesterday that all grievances and dissatisfactions are being still referred to Chungking for final settlement. They also reported that the employees had been given a temporary allowance, pending final orders from the war capital.

There was further labour unrest in Chinese cotton mills, the latest to be affected being the Hsing Sen Cotton Mill in Tonquin Road and Hsing Yu Cotton Mill in Soochow Road. It was believed that political agitators had been busy with the workers, and tried to prevent the employees from entering the factories. Many of the workers now live in the mills to avoid trouble with the agitators, while work is being done normally pending a reply from the management for better pay.

Merchant Held for Fu Murder

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

The new Nanking regime's political police in Shanghai claim that they have now arrested the instigator of the assassination of the late Mayor Fu Siao-en of the Shanghai Special Municipality in the person of Wan Mo-lin, a rice merchant in the French Concession, the mystery surrounding whose arrest last Saturday night has been reported by all newspapers here. The "Central China Daily News" reports that Wan will be taken to Nanking for trial.

It is alleged in the report that Wan was formerly the accountant employed by a Mr. Tu and that during the past few years he has been working for Chungking as head of the political department of the "Consolidation Committee," an organization established by Chungking in Shanghai. It is indicated that it was because of this that his name appeared in the blacklist announced by the new régime many months ago. It is further alleged that he also instigated the assassination of the late Mayor Fu.

The paper, which is an organ of the new régime, admits that Wan was arrested while he was going to a hotel in Bubbling Well Road. Wan was arrested by the political police co-operating with the Settlement police. After evidence had been presented to the Settlement police, Wan was taken to the headquarters of the political police. Wan will be sent to Nanking in a day or two.

Green and Growing Around Shanghai

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

To the not so well-informed, the first name called to mind when thinking of Shanghai vegetable, if one ever does ponder over such a subject, is the soya bean, followed perhaps by the bamboo shoot. Those who claim to have more or less an acquaintance with Shanghai vegetables by frequent patronage of the Chinese restaurants may, perhaps, go one or two better by naming the Water Chestnut and Water Lily root as well. It is more or less safe to say that not one of Shanghai's foreigners will be able to count the hundred or so varieties of vegetables described and listed in "Shanghai Vegetables", by Dr. Bernard E. Read and W. Wagner (China Publishing Co., $5). The book meets a need for fuller information about the vegetation—or at least that edible portion of it—which grows in and around the city in which we live. It is written in a clear and concise manner, and the authors have not only described the vegetables, but have given some idea of their vitamin content and also suggested methods of cooking.

Dr. J. H. Jordan, Commissioner of Public Health, in an introduction, writes:

China has an excellent assortment of vegetables of high nutritional value, but on account of lack of information people are often unaware of their existence or have the idea that they are not of much value. Analyses of local specimens show that they are quite comparable to vegetables in Western countries.....

Here speaks high authority on the virtue of Chinese vegetables, whose character has so often been taken away by the careless remark, "Of course, they haven't the goodness of vegetables at home." Fortified by the verdict of this book, readers will be able to take their helpings of vegetables in the cooperative faith that such worthy products of the Chinese earth deserve—and if there is any doubt as to an identity, reference to the excellent photographs provided will dissipate it.

Demolition of Houses Continues

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

The demolition process in Wang Ka Loong in Great Western Road where, by order of Japanese authorities, Chinese civilian houses have been torn down, is still going on. So far no other reason than the recent shooting of a Japanese officer which took place there has been reported for the destruction of the houses. No compensation is reported to have been offered.

The Japanese are doing this in order to give room for new roads but several hundred poor people have had their homes destroyed and are suffering from exposure, it is said. Household-removing activities are reported to be still going on and "To let" notices are said to have made their first appearance in the area, urging people to move to Nantao. Reports indicate that these notices have been put up by enterprising landlords in the native city.

Some areas in the troubled district are open to the public traffic only between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Chinese police are said to be continuing carrying out their "Po Cha" system among the residents there, requiring mutual guarantees against bad elements.

Chinese to Observe Sian Incident

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

Excepting Christian Chinese who will celebrate Christmas today by participating in parties to be held under the auspices of such Chinese Christian bodies as the Chinese Y.M.C.A., the Chinese community in Shanghai as a whole will celebrate the day known officially as the "Chinese Race Renaissance Festival," which is considered to be of double importance among the politically-minded masses.

Owing to the changed situation here, however, there will be no public celebration meetings, although silent tributes will be paid to Chinese leaders, and shop managers will today signify this by hoisting the Chinese national flag. To the Chinese in sympathy with Chungking, it is a day worth remembering because just before the war, General Chiang Kai-shek was released on Christmas day from Sian by war-lords there who wished to fight the Japanese as soon as possible. Today is also the anniversary of the Yunnan uprising, which materially helped the Kuomintang to establish its power throughout the country.

Chinese amusement resorts in Shanghai, especially ballrooms, try to make a big profit during the holidays by advertising their all-night amusement programmes in the press. Indicating the scale on which the rich Chinese will celebrate the "Dong Tze" or the "arrival of winter," as the Chinese "Christmas" is known, one ballroom is collecting a dinner charge of $35 per person. The Chinese press as a whole discouraged pleasure-seekers in going to places of amusement and the high charges are severely criticized. The rich are asked to think of the poor and it is strongly urged that money may be saved for philanthropic purposes. To this end, the Thrift Movement Society has issued a long statement.

Public School Not To Be Moved

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

The Public and Thomas Hanbury School for Boys will not be removed to Jessfield. The Council has decided that this School shall remain at its present location in Kinnear Road. The former British Military Camp site at Jessfield will be incorporated in Jessfield Park.

The Council has granted the petition of the parents of pupils in the Western District Public School and will provide for that School an adequate playground on the former British Military Camp site on Tifeng Road.

Official Call on S.M.C.

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

Read-Admiral Risaburo Fujita, newly appointed Japanese Naval Attaché and Resident Naval Officer, called on the Shanghai Municipal Council yesterday morning on a visit and was received by a number of Council officials including Mr. W. J. Keswick, Chairman of the Council, Mr. G. Godfrey Phillips, Secretary and Commissioner-General of the Council, Major K. M. Bourne, Police Commissioner; Col. J. W. Hornby, S.V.C. Commandant, and Major G. H. Mann, staff officer, S.V.C.

Russian Regiment Transfer Soon

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

The Russian Regiment, the city's most picturesque military unit, will cease to exist as such on January 15, 1941, when it will be transferred to the Shanghai Municipal Police, according to the scheme passed by the Shanghai Municipal Council several months ago.

Formed in January 1927, at the time when General Chiang Kai-shek was on his triumphant march to Shanghai, the Russian Regiment has seen two Sino-Japanese incidents here, in 1932 and 1937. In the last conflict, the Russians were the first to be mobilized and sent to guard the Settlement boundary in West Hongkew.

Later they were relieved by other units of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, who in their turn handed the sector over to regular British troops, rushed here to meet the emergency.

Since their establishment, the Russian volunteers have done various duties in the Settlement, their chief duty being the guarding of the Ward Road gaol. In addition to that, they carried out smaller duties at the Rifle Range and barracks.

Up to 1937, the unit was quartered at the Rifle Range and Alcock Road barracks, but the conflict put an end to that and since August of that year, the Regiment has been stationed in various buildings in the Settlement, occupying the Polytechnic School for Chinese in Pakhoi Road, the then uncompleted Chase Bank in Szechuen Road, and the Chinese banks on the Bund. In November of this year they were transferred to the Race Course barracks, which they are now occupying.

No Command Changes

The transfer of the Regiment to the S.M.P., where it will be known as the Russian Detachment, will not, it is believed, change the inner life led by its members up to now. The commanding staff will remain the same, while so far it has not been learned whether they will don police uniforms.

Many ex-members of the Regiment are now in the Police, as in November 1936 sixteen of them were transferred to the S.M.P. to form the nucleus of the Russian Reserve Unit. Most of them have since then been transferred to the regular Police, while the strength of the Reserve Unit has been increased threefold.

The resignations of British members of the force, of which there have been very many in the past six months, have opened a wide field to those Russians in the Reserve Unit, there being more and more transferred.

In addition to being considered the best military unit in Shanghai, the Russian Regiment has made quite a name for itself in the sporting fields of the city. For several years, its volley-ball and boxing teams reigned supreme here. Other sports taken up by its members were football, light athletics, table tennis and wrestling, all of which brought more fame to the unit.

Land Documents Taken Over by New Regime

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

Important documents belonging to the Bureau of Finance of the former Kuomintang city government in Shanghai and surveying instruments left over by the former Bureau of Land under the Kuomintang régime prior to the hostilities were taken over by the Shanghai Special Municipality on Monday, it was revealed yesterday by the new régime's organ, the "Central China Daily News."

The documents, including account books on taxation, were said to have been transported from the French Concession where they had been hidden by the Kuomintang officials who withdrew after the conclusion of hostilities here, to the new Chinese city régime's office. It was stated that the documents and surveying equipment were left in the care of an official of the former Kuomintang city government who has now participated in the peace movement.

It would appear that this Chinese official who has apparently changed his allegiance led the city government officials to take away the documents because in other Chinese newspapers it was reported that when the Japanese and city régime's representatives went to a Rue Bourgeat building to take away the documents and articles in three trucks, they were accompanied by a certain Mr. Wu, who after the removal of about 300 cases, was taken to a car under escort. It was alleged that the doors of rooms in which the documents were hidden were smashed with an axe in order to secure an entrance.

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SHANGHAI NEWS (continued)

C.P.C.'s Receive Medals

Deceased Officers Decorated Posthumously for Bravery Shown in Pursuit of Armed Robbers

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

THE Municipal Council has approved recommendations of the Permanent Awards Board, endorsed by the Commissioner of Police, that the Police Distinguished Conduct Medal, Class I, be awarded posthumously to Chinese Police Constable No. 3349, Chang Ah-fa, and that Police Distinguished Conduct Medals, Class II, be awarded to Chinese Detective Sergeant No. 225, Hsu Kuei-yung, Chinese Detective Constable No. 308, Wang Chun-fee and Chinese Police Constable No. 2768, Huang Jen-sheng.

At about 12 noon on November 11 a gang of armed robbers entered the Nyue Foong Rice Shop, No. 7 Avenue Foch, French Concession, and after intimidating the inmates stole approximately $2,800 in cash and three cheques. After the robbers left, the complainant raised an alarm which attracted members of the Annamite and Chinese branches of the French Police who gave chase. C.P.C. 244, French Police, who was on duty proceeded to the scene where he saw a male Chinese being chased by other members of the French Police.

This robber turned North into Luzon Road, whereupon C.P.C. 244 borrowed a bicycle from a pedestrian and gave chase along Luzon Road, thence West along Avenue Edward VII to Chungking Road where he warned C.P.C. 3349 on traffic duty, who joined in the chase of the robber. The robber turned East on Taku Road and when about 10 yards East of the corner C.P.C. 3349 opened fire. The robber returned the fire resulting in both hitting each other simultaneously.

The robber was shot dead whilst C.P.C. 3349, wounded in the abdomen, died later in hospital. The deceased C.P.C. 3349, pursued the armed man for more than 100 yards before firing and then, getting his man, was himself fatally wounded by the robber in the exchange of shots. The Board considered this an exceptional case and unanimously recommended the posthumous award of the Police Distinguished Conduct Medal Class I.

Shot Robber

At about 9.20 p.m. on October 27 two males, both then believed to be Koreans, entered the open front door of No. 76 Bubbling Well Road, a restaurant, and produced pistols with which they intimidated the inmates of the ground floor. While one stood on guard at the front door, the other proceeded to the open cash drawer from which he stole the sum of $500 in notes.

Both then decamped and entered Lane 70, Bubbling Well Road, followed by an employee of the restaurant. On reaching the Burkill Road end of the alleyway the robbers boarded public rickshaws and proceeded East of Yu Ya Ching Road, where they turned north, then west into Kuling Road.

At this stage the employee of the restaurant informed C.P.C. 2768 on duty at the Metropol Theatre who immediately gave chase. Outside the north entrance of Lane 100, Burkill Road, in Kuling Road, the robbers left the rickshaws. They refused to halt when called upon to do so, and one of them having his hand in his pocket, C.P.C. 2768 fired four shots at him and he collapsed, being hit on the face and shoulder.

C.P.C. 2768 took from his hand a .25 Le Monorlog automatic pistol containing six rounds of ammunition. The robber was bleeding profusely, and believing him to be too seriously wounded to move, C.P.C. 2768 continued the pursuit of the other robber, but lost sight of him in Burkill Road.

On returning to the scene of the shooting C.P.C. 2768 discovered that the wounded robber had disappeared. A trail of blood was observed leading to the Burkill Road entrance of the alleyway, and from residents in the vicinity it was learned that the wounded robber had boarded a public rickshaw and proceeded east along Burkill Road.

On the following day the Charge Room Sergeant on duty at West Hongkew Station informed Sinza Station that a Korean, suffering from gunshot wounds had been admitted to the San Ming Hospital, 70 North Honan Road, and had been transferred to the Foo Ming Hospital, North Szechuen Road. This wounded man was said to be the robber shot by C.P.C. 2768. The wounded man was brought to Sinza Station at about 3.30 p.m. on the same day. He admitted the armed robbery and corroborated the statement of C.P.C. 2768 as to failing to stop when ordered and then being shot.

For courage, tenacity and efficiency the Board unanimously recommended C.P.C. 2768 for the Distinguished Conduct Medal, Class II.

Tackled Armed Robber

At 2.35 p.m. on October 18 four male Chinese, one of whom was armed with a revolver, entered 14 Linching Road via the unsecured rear door and after intimidating the only inmate of the house, they searched him and stole $10 in notes. They then searched the premises and stole a pair of flannel trousers valued at $20. The robbers were on the premises about five minutes and left by the way they entered.

The complainant immediately followed them and raised an alarm. C.D.S. 225 and C.D.C. 308 who were unarmed and patrolling Linching Road near Tse Ka Ba Road heard the alarm and simultaneously observed a male Chinese holding a revolver in his right hand running towards them. Without hesitation they tackled the robber and succeeded in disarming him and effecting his arrest. The seized weapon was in good working order and had one round of ammunition in the chamber.

Would-Be Victim Foils Armed Kidnappers

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

Presence of mind and fearlessness on the part of a middle aged wealthy Chinese saved him from being kidnapped when he was accosted by two armed abductors in Yu Yuen Road, near Brenan Road, at about 10 a.m. yesterday, just as he was leaving his home to go to his office in Avenue Edward VII.

Mr. Wang Su-ching, intended victim of the kidnappers, left his home and was getting into his car when the two criminals approached and attempted to push him into his car. The victim struggled with the kidnappers and managed to free himself. He then started running west in Yu Yuen Road.

Seeing themselves foiled, the two men took to their heels and escaped by boarding Route No. 1 bus, going towards Avenue Haig.

The victim, a native of Kwangsi and fifty years of age, is not known to belong to any political organization here, and it was believed yesterday that the attempt had been made on purely pecuniary grounds. The case was reported to the Bubbling Well station by his son.

Mr. Wang is the manager of China Cotton Company, with offices in Avenue Edward VII.

Kidnappers' Attempt Foiled by Police

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

The sight of members of the Shanghai Special Municipality Police forced five kidnappers to leave their victim in the car and take to their heels shortly after 6 p.m. yesterday, the abducted man being Dr. Ying Tsu-ling, residing in House 55 Lane 189 Kinnear Road

The abductors gained entrance to the victim's home and forced him to follow them, taking him away in his own car, which bore licence No. 8284.

Near the corner of Connaught and Jessfield Roads, the car was slowed down by a bus, which forced the vehicle to stop near the barrier. There the kidnappers saw several members of the Shanghai Special Municipality Police, on duty searching Chinese.

Afraid that their victim would raise an alarm and that they would be arrested, the kidnappers abandoned Dr. Ying and his car and escaped. As the victim did not raise an alarm, the abductors managed to effect their escape.

An alarm raised by one of the occupants of 200 Kwangse Road resulted in the arrest of one unarmed robber at 11 a.m. on Dec. 27, when a band entered the place and stole $2,000. The robbers took to their heels when the alarm was raised, but the Police managed to catch one of them.

Injured Victim Recovers Money

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Displaying a courage rarely seen in this city, a young Chinese apprentice went in pursuit of two highwaymen who had robbed him and managed to recover the money that had been stolen from him, all this done notwithstanding the fact that he had been injured by one of the desperadoes.

The crime took place at 10.25 a.m. in Tientsin Road where the young apprentice of an iron shop situated at 750 Peking Road was approached by two men, one of them believed to have been armed with an imitation pistol, who demanded the parcel he was carrying under his left arm. This contained $2,000 which the apprentice was taking to a native bank in Tientsin Road.

The victim resisted and struggled when the unarmed man started to snatch the parcel. The armed robber then hit him on the head several times with the pistol, causing lacerations to the victim's skull.

Grabbing the parcel, the two criminals ran along Tientsin Road, while their victim went after them, shouting for help. The apprentice continued after one of the robbers when they turned into Shanse Road and finally caught up with him. A short struggle ensued and the highwayman, seeing himself in danger of being arrested, returned the parcel untouched to his captor and ran away after freeing himself.

The apprentice, although slightly hurt, reported the case to Central Station and was then taken to a hospital for first aid.

Another Hold-up

Central district was the scene of another hold-up later in the day when another apprentice was robbed of $6,500 whilst riding a bicycle in Honan Road at 12.15 p.m.

The apprentice was sent to deposit the money in a native bank and was riding along Honan Road when, a few yards from Nanking Road, he was stopped by three highwaymen, one of them brandishing a pistol, who intimidated him and forced him to part with the money and bicycle.

The victim was too stupified to raise an alarm and the robbers found little difficulty in escaping. All three spoke Shanghai dialect.

Several other smaller crimes were reported to various stations during the day, the first being at 4.15 a.m. when seven men, three of them armed with pistols, forced open the front door of 160/1 Yenping Road and intimidated the occupants, forcing them to give them clothing, valuables and cash. The gang, all the members of which were Shantung natives, then left the place, taking with them a loot estimated at approximately $1,000.

The next armed robbery was committed at 273/109 Kiaochow Road at 7.30 a.m. by six men. The moment the gang gained entrance, three of them whipped out pistols and held the occupants covered, while the others searched the place for money and valuables. The robbers left several minutes later, taking with them all they could find of value.

Another armed robbery that netted its perpetrators about $1,000 in money, valuables and clothing, was committed at 9.15 a.m. when a Chinese dwelling at 506/5 Taku Road was victimized by five robbers, of whom one was armed with a pistol. No alarm was raised by the victims.

One Chinese man, walking with a woman in Dent Road, met with an unpleasant experience when they were stopped near East Yuhang Road at 1.30 p.m. yesterday by two men. While one of the men, armed with a pistol, told the victims to keep quiet, the other robbed the woman of her diamond ring. Both escaped through an alleyway.

Store Owner Shot Dead By Armed Robber

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

The owner of a shoe store at 224 Rue Gaston Kahn was shot and killed when he tried to raise an alarm when six bandits entered his shop at 6 p.m. yesterday and attempted to rob the place.

The gang, two of whom were armed with pistols, entered the premises where the armed men whipped out their fire arms and covered the occupants, ordering them to keep quiet while the the other four started taking as many pairs of shoes as they could, using a sack for the purpose.

The owner of the store, meanwhile, attempted to leave the place unnoticed hoping to raise an alarm, but was seen by one of the armed men, who told him to stop. When the robber's order was not obeyed, he opened fire, wounding him fatally in the chest.

The robbers then took to their heels and escaped before the arrival of French Police, who started immediate investigations.

Detectives Arrest Armed Gangsters

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

Quick work and alert eyes of C.D.C's 203 and 132 were responsible for the rounding-up of an armed gang yesterday, following the detention of one young Chinese, dressed in flashy foreign clothes, for loitering and behaving in suspicious manner outside several bank buildings in the Central district. The man was brought to the Central station at 11 a.m. for questioning.

The two C.D.C's were on duty when they noticed two suspicious-looking characters outside the Commercial Savings Bank at 50 Ningpo Road. After remaining there for a few minutes, the two suspects proceeded to the Kincheng Bank at 200 Kiangse Road and stayed there for almost half an hour, scrutinzing the building. The C.D.C's meanwhile kept after them, not losing them out of sight for a single moment.

The Chinese then went to the Continental Bank Building at 353 Nanking Road and there, too, they remained for about twenty minutes.

After this they went along various streets and finally separated in Wusih Road, one of them proceeding to Shanse Road, with detectives still on his trail. He was arrested by the detectives near Peking Road.

Taken to the Central station the man gave his name as Loh, but denied having been in company with any other man. After more questioning, however, he gave in and implicated two others.

Working on information thus obtained, several detectives went to 100 Yates Road where they found another man, Tseu. He was arrested, while two pistols were found when the room was searched. The party proceeded to Lane 63 House 23 in Hart Road where the third member of the gang, one named Lee, was found and arrested. His room was also searched by the detectives and one small black automatic pistol, with one magazine containing three rounds of ammunition, was found. The policemen also seized one "Vickers Vanguard" shotgun with its barrel sawn off and one cartridge.

These two men were also taken to the station for further questioning. Although no confessions had been made by the trio, detectives believed the men to be bank robbers and that the two watched by the alert C.D.C.'s were out looking for the next place to rob. Thus, the vigilance of two Chinese detectives may have averted an armed crime.

The arrested men will appear before the First Special District Court this morning, but it is understood that the Police will ask for the case to be remanded to conduct further investigations into the activities of the gang.

Downtown Shooting Affair

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Another shooting believed to be motivated by political reasons occurred yesterday morning outside the Grand Hotel on Yu Ya Ching Road when a Chinese suspected of being a leader of a political party was shot and seriously wounded by an unknown gunman who eluded capture.

The shooting occurred at about 9.50 a.m. when the victim had left the hotel where he was staying. He was shot from behind and collapsed in a heap. The unknown assailant mingled with the crowd which gathered and escaped before the arrival of the police.

Detectives from the Louza station were sent to the scene of the crime and conducted enquiries. The victim was removed to the Lester Chinese Hospital in an emergency ambulance of the Fire Brigade. His condition was critical and he is not expected to recover.

The victim it was learned arrived here from Wusih on December 24, and engaged a room in the hotel which he was occupying until yesterday.

Western Area Shooting

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

What may yet develop into a case of keeping a tryst with death occurred yesterday morning in a desolated spot on Columbia Road when a Chinese husband and wife unwittingly walked into a trap set for them by a Chinese who had made an appointment with them by telephone.

When they arrived at the rendezvous, outside Settlement limits, they were set upon by several armed men who fired several shots at them point-blank. Seriously wounded they were later removed to a hospital where their condition was said to be serious and little hope is held for their recovery. The shooting is shrouded in mystery.

Chinese Couple Taken Away by Kidnappers

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

An unidentified elderly Chinese couple disappeared early yesterday morning after they had left the China Club gambling den in Bubbling Well Road at 5.45 a.m. in a hired car bearing licence No. 18177. They were believed to be victims of a gang of kidnappers.

The two left the gambling den in the taxi and as it was leaving the grounds, five men, two of them reported to have been armed with pistols, appeared in the darkness and ordered the chauffeur to stop. They then threw him out of the car, and with one of them taking his place at the wheel, they drove away in a westerly direction along Avenue Haig.

The taxi was later recovered in Great Western Road, and a short Chinese jacket was found inside. No other clues or finger prints were discovered by the Police

The crime was reported to Bubbling Well police station by the chauffeur and investigations were started immediately.

It was believed that the couple had won at the China Club and that some employee of the club, probably in league with criminals, had tipped off the gang of the fact. It may be recalled that several cases of hold-ups have been reported in the past, some of the victims being lucky winners in the "Badlands" gambling den. On leaving the resort, they were invariably stopped by two or three men who would ask them to reward them with a "cumshaw." If this was not forthcoming, the winner would be robbed of the money. In the past, these crimes were on several occasions traced to the empolyees of the gambling dens.

Two attempts were also made yesterday to kidnap Chinese, but in both they failed since the intended victims were not there when the abductors appeared. The first was at 853 Avenue Joffre, while the second occurred at Asia Hotel in Avenue Edward VII.

Two Youths Kidnapped In One Morning

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

A Chinese school boy of 12, the son of wealthy parents was the victim yesterday morning of kidnappers, who forced him out of a private rickshaw, handcuffed the puller, locked a wheel of the vehicle and bundled the victim into a waiting car and drove off in a northerly direction on Thorburn Road. One of three kidnappers, who participated in the abduction, was armed with a pistol, but the licence number of the car was not ascertained, although it was described as a sedan. The kidnapping was staged on Baikal Road near Thorburn Road. No trace of the victim could be found by detectives of the Yulin Road station, who were informed of the abduction.

Avenue Petain in the French Concession was the scene of another kidnapping yesterday morning when Wang Jen Chang, the nine-year old son of the manager of the Hsin Hwa Bank was intercepted on his way to primary school, accompanied by his elder sister. The armed kidnappers confronted the pair while they were walking along the road and bundled the boy into a waiting hire car, which the kidnappers had hired from a garage earlier in the morning.

After driving a short distance the kidnappers forced the chauffeur to alight and one of them took the wheel and drove away. The car was found abandoned in a lonely spot later. No trace was found of the victim.

Accountant Robbed

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

Five thousand dollars in one dollar bills wrapped up in two bulky parcels which Dai Zung-kung, accountant of the Kong Yue Tin Factory, 247 Canton Road, had drawn from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation yesterday morning for his employers was stolen from him by two robbers, one armed with a pistol.

After leaving the bank and when nearing the Foochow and Siking Road, intersection, the accountant was accosted by the robbers, one of whom threatened him with a gun while the other forced him to surrender the parcels. The robbers escaped.

The accountant immediately reported the matter to the Central police station where detectives accompanied him to the scene of the crime but nothing more was heard of the robbers.

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Rickshaw Fares Increased

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

After a very careful review of all factors involved the S.M.C. has decided to authorize the raising of the minimum passenger fare of public rickshaws from 10 to 15 cents by distance and from 60 to 90 cents per hour a Council spokesman revealed yesterday. The increase of the pullers' contribution to the Pullers' Mutual Aid Association from 7 cents to 12 cents per rickshaw per day, and the raising of the maximum rickshaw rental from 98 cents to $1.40 per day (including pullers' contribution of 12 cents to the Pullers' Mutual Aid Association). These increases will be effective from January 1.

Studies undertaken by the Industrial and Social Division on three separate occasions during the past fifteen months show clearly the capacity of the pullers to increase their gross earnings as the cost of living rises. Taking this into account and having regard to the fact that costs of materials for upkeep of vehicles have greatly increased, the Council feels that an increase in the rickshaw rental is justified in order to allow the owners to carry on and to maintain their vehicles in good repair. The new maximum rental will be rigidly enforced by the Police and stern measures taken against overcharging by owners.

It is necessary that the public should pay more for public rickshaw transport as for other transport services. The increased fare table is as follows:—

BY DISTANCE

Half mile	$0.15
Succeeding half-hour or part thereof	0.45
Minimum fare	0.15

BY TIME

One hour	$0.90
Succeeding half-mile or part thereof	0.15
Minimum fare	0.90

The funds of the Pullers' Mutual Aid Association are derived from contributions collected from the pullers through the owners at the rate of 7 cents per rickshaws per day. After careful investigation of the activities and accounts of the Association, the Council is satisfied that the contribution should be increased to 12 cents. The Council finds that the increase is necessary in order to enable the Association to continue its good work for the pullers and to meet the high cost of operation.

Presentation Made to Mr. F. Hornbrook

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

The Committee of the Navy League (Shanghai Branch) including the House Committee of the Union Jack Club, gathered at the residence of H.B.M. Consul-General yesterday to do honour to Mr. F. Hornbrook, for many years resident manager of the Union Jack Club, on the eve of his departure from Shanghai.

Mr. A. H. George, President of the Navy League, in the course of a brief speech referred to Mr. Hornbrook's twenty-four years service in the Royal Navy followed by nearly seventeen years during which he managed the Union Jack Club, Shanghai, in a manner which called for the highest praise. In carrying out these duties he had been ably assisted by Mrs. Hornbrook who, working quite voluntarily, had been a tower of strength behind the scenes in catering for the comfort of men of the Royal Navy during their stay in Shanghai. Mr. Hornbrook was now going to Australia to join his wife, and the Committee desired to hand him a token of their esteem which he must accept as some slight recognition of his long and faithful services to the Club.

The silver salver presented to Mr. Hornbrook bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to F. Hornbrook Esq., by the Navy League (Shanghai Branch) in recognition of valuable services rendered as Resident Manager of the Union Jack Club, Shanghai, 12th May 1924 to 30th November 1940."

Japanese Spokesmen Hosts to Journalists

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

One of the gayest functions of the Christmas holidays was the dinner given last evening in the Tsukinoya Restaurant (Hongkew), when the spokesmen of the Japanese Army, Navy and Embassy entertained local and foreign newspapermen. This annual dinner has characterized relations between spokesmen and press since the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese hostilities and is one which only illness prevents host or guest from attending.

Informality was the keynote of the occasion and the Japanese officials and the press doyen and his senior associates, in addition to extending respective felicitations, led in the general merriment. Several impromptu performances were greatly appreciated, as were the formal presentations by professional Japanese artistes.

BY SAPAJOU

And Last But Not Least!

Contact Made with Wenchow Recently

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

A number of owners of small river craft have obtained permission from the local Japanese naval authorities to operate their vessels outside Kiangsu waters patrolled by local naval units, it was learned yesterday. Although the waters concerned do not extend beyond Hangchow Bay a number of smaller craft recently navigated the waters and safely landed cargoes and passengers in Wenchow after negotiating the numerous islands adjacent to this port, which is still in the hands of the Chinese forces. Wenchow rose to prominence after the Sino-Japanese hostilities and the introduction of shipping restrictions affecting larger ports, and in the heyday of the coastal shipping boom was one of the best ports of call.

According to well informed shipping circles a tentative arrangement has been reached between the shipowners and the Japanese naval authorities concerned for vessels to navigate outside Kiangsu waters upon payment of certain charges, without any stipulation regarding actual ports of call.

Anchored Till Dusk

Following the conclusion of a verbal accord with the authorities several vessels recently made the journey to the islands outside Wenchow where they weighed anchor and waited till dusk before discharging their cargo and passengers into flat-bottomed boats which safely landed in Wenchow. The difficulties of enforcing a strict blockade on Wenchow became apparent as a result of its inaccessibility to deep sea craft and the numerous Chinese forts in the various islands outside the city, not to mention the difficulty of navigating the perilous waters between the islands.

Shippers recently were reported to have paid freight rates as high as $600 per ton of space on the vessels bound for Wenchow owing to the conditions prevailing. Despite the attraction to shipping only owners of smaller craft have undertaken the risks involved in the journey, it was learned, as the owners of the larger boats have decided that discretion is the better of valour, and kept their boats idle in port, being apprehensive of their seizure or other consequences owing to the rigours of the Japanese coastal shipping ban.

The ban in the opinion of the better informed, has become part of Japanese naval policy in China waters instead of being a local affair. Shipping speculators are reported to have paid as much as $30,000 to $40,000 to owners of small crafts for each trip charter to Wenchow.

Necessity for Higher Rates

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

The Council's decision to initiate a special meeting of ratepayers has been rendered necessary by the heavy rise in municipal expenditure due to inflation since the budget for 1940 was formed, states an official press release. At that time an exchange rate of 4d. was taken and it was anticipated that the cost of living allowance for the staff would remain at its then figure of 40 per cent. Today exchange is 3½d. and the cost of living allowance for the lower paid members of the staff is 150 per cent., the lowest paid employees receiving very much more. In addition, there have been very large increases in the rice allowance given to the Chinese staff not serving under letter of appointment.

Sound finance undoubtedly demands that ratepayers be asked to begin to pay the bill from January 1 instead of waiting until the Annual Meeting of Ratepayers in April. It is now proposed to ask for a surcharge of 40 per cent. on the amount now being paid by ratepayers and land tax payers. If taxes were not increased until next April, the surcharge would have to be at least 50 per cent., and this, of course, is only an estimated figure because, as has been shown above, expenditure at a time of inflation is apt to increase through circumstances beyond the Council's control.

An additional advantage of holding a special meeting of ratepayers next month is that it will enable immediate benefit to be reaped from the recommendations now under consideration by the Economy Committee for a new scale of licence fees, etc.

Chinese Mill Labourer Shot by Japanese

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

A Chinese labourer of the Tong Yi Cotton Mill at 25 Mokanshan Road was lying at the Red Cross Hospital, following a wound sustained from a shot fired by a Japanese sentry in the Siccawei sector, because he failed to abide by the precautionary regulations laid down by the Japanese authorities in that zone.

The shooting took place in the morning and the victim, whose name was given as Shih Wu-mei, was understood to have been seriously wounded when the Japanese fired twice at him.

Precautionary measures launched by the Japanese following the last attack when Lieutenant Nomura was shot at the corner of Thorburn and Ward Roads some two weeks ago, have been continued in all the Japanese-controlled areas. Search parties, gendarmes and sentries stop and search pedestrians and vehicles.

Five Houses Damaged In Big Blaze

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Several houses were badly damaged when fire broke out in Lane 288 Elgin Road at 5.20 a.m. yesterday, four engines from the Hongkew fire station attending. Fortunately, despite the early hour, no one was injured in the blaze.

The fire broke out in a wooden partition in House 43 and spread quickly to envelop the premises and four adjoining houses before an alarm had been raised by the occupants, who informed the Hongkew station.

Before the engines arrived at the scene, five houses were on fire, inflammable material stored by a printing plant occupying house 43 being responsible for the fast spread of flames.

Hongkew firefighters concentrated on isolating neighbouring houses, at the same time exerting all their efforts to place the flames under control, which was done after 24 minutes. From then on, the task was easier and the fire was completely put out by 6.47 a.m.

The first floors and the roofs of houses 43, 45 and 47 were very badly damaged, while those of 49 and 51 sustained only slight damage to their roofs.

Another fire was reported at 4.20 a.m. at the corner of Gee Mai and Wang Shing Roads at the Civic Centre where several bamboo huts were entirely burned out. Fire engines from the Hongkew fire station were called out but their services were not required as the huts were already destroyed.

The Fire Brigade was called out to another fire at 1.20 p.m. when a call came to the headquarters from Liang Che Hotel at 144 Hoopeh Road. Central engines attended and were free to return to their station in 23 minutes after extinguishing the fire which started in one of the rooms and damaged the furniture and wall paper.

Tram Inspector Injured In Accident

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Mr. J. Forbes, a tram inspector, was run over by a tram at 2-15 yesterday afternoon, sustaining a fractured leg. The accident took place at the corner of Kansuh and Haining Roads while Mr. Forbes was alighting from the vehicle It was raining at the time, and the road being slippery he slid and fell. His left leg went under the rear wheels of the tram which was moving slowly forward, running over it.

The driver pulled up quickly, and, when it was found that the leg was fractured, called an ambulance. Mr. Forbes was rushed to the Country Hospital immediately, receiving treatment for his injury.

Highwaymen Arrested By French Police

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Five Chinese highwaymen were arrested by the French Police on Wednesday and yesterday, following hold-ups staged in Rue Lemaire and Rue Lafayette, in which the victims were robbed of various valuables.

At about 8 p.m. on Christmas Day, a Chinese couple was stopped at the corner of Rue Lafayette and Route Pichon by three men, one of them in possession of an imitation pistol. The robbers forced their victims to part with two gold rings and $80 in cash.

As soon as they robbers had taken their loot, the victims started shouting for help and their cries were heard by C.P.C. 222 who went in pursuit of the highwaymen and managed to catch one of them.

Taken to the station, the arrested robber said that he had lost all his money in western gambling houses and that he and his accomplices had followed the couple, who were also in the gambling establishment, hoping to rob them. His description of the other two highwaymen is believed to be correct and they are being sought by the Police.

Another highwaymen was arrested by three Chinese constables of the French Police following a hold-up in Rue Lemaire at 5.30 a.m. yesterday when two robbers stopped a Chinese pedestrian and robbed him of his overcoat.

The victim went after his assailants to Rue Vouillement where he reported the crime to the C.P.C.'s. A short chase ensued and one of the robbers was arrested near Meugniot market in Rue Marco Polo.

Taken to the station, the arrested robber confessed to the crime and betrayed his accomplices, who were later found in Rome 17 of Sing Seng Ve Hotel in Boulevard de Montigny. In addition to these arrests, the French Police also took a young Chinese woman into custody. She was found in the same room.

The Police recovered the stolen overcoat and seized one imitation pistol. The trio, it is learned, have participated in five other hold-ups. They will face the Second Special District Court this morning.

Substitution of Saigon Rice Forbidden

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

The Rice Sub-Committee of the French Municipality issued a communique yesterday afternoon in which they stated that the Governor-General of Indo-China had forbidden any substitution in the quality of Saigon rice, in order to maintain an efficient control of the rice market.

It was also stated that a minimum of 100,000 bags of Saigon rice will be imported to Shanghai during January to keep the stocks on the same level. Taking into consideration the stocks already here and the quantities to be received here before February 1, the prospects for this winter are reassuring.

The same regulations will apply for February and there is every probability that Shanghai will not suffer from lack of rice stocks for many months to come.

Killers of Japanese Constable Arrested

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

Action taken by the Japanese gendarmerie and the Shanghai Special Municipality Police, resulted in the arrest on Friday night of three Chinese who confessed to having murdered Constable Satoshi Miyazaki, a Japanese Consular policeman, on the night of December 23 in Nantao.

The constable who sustained fifteen wounds was found by a passer-by at 11 o'clock the same night, and when taken to a nearby hospital, succumbed to his wounds shortly.

Italian Vessel Detained

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

The ss Commandant Carlini, an Italian river boat was detained by the Japanese naval authorities here yesterday with a cargo of cotton valued at approximately $40,000. It was reported that the vessel did not have the necessary permit for transporting the cargo.

The vessel, a 75-ton river boat was returning from Yangtze delta ports when the vessel was boarded by members of the Japanese naval authorities shortly after she berthed. She was ordered to proceed down river to the hulk of the Japanese waterfront police.

It was learned that the cargo of cotton was intended for a local Chinese hong. The vessel was one of a number of boats which have been detained recently by the Japanese naval authorities.

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SHANGHAI NEWS (continued)

No Christmas for Police

Detective Killed in Shooting Affray With Gunmen; Yu Ya Ching Road, Route Conty, Scenes of Attacks

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

CHRISTMAS did not deter the criminal elements of Shanghai, who ran riot in the International Settlement and French Concession on Wednesday, committing several armed robberies, in addition to one murder, one attempted murder, and a shooting affray in which one S.M.P. Chinese detective and one suspected robber met death.

The attempted assassination took place at 5 a.m. on Christmas Day, the victim being Wu Tse-kong, a member of the special section of a political organization in Jessfield Road, who was shot and seriously wounded by an unidentified Chinese near the corner of Yu Ya Ching and Foochow Roads.

The victim was known to have first gone to the Great World Ballroom where he danced till 1 a.m., when he took two dance hostesses to the Cha Loh Cabaret in Yu Ya Ching Road, where he and his friends remained until 5 a.m. The cabaret closed at that hour and Wu and his girl friends were walking in Yu Ya Ching Road when the gunman appeared and fired four shots, two of which pierced the victim's abdomen. The assailant then took to his heels and escaped before the Police got to the scene.

The wounded man was taken to the Lester Chinese Hospital where his condition was pronounced serious, though not critical.

Doctor Shot Dead

The French Concession was the scene of the next crime in which Dr. Wu Wei-chung, manager of a clinic at 5 Kong Chi Lane off Route Conty, was shot dead at about 11 a.m. on the same day. The murderer was later arrested and confessed to the crime.

The gunman, Yang Lung-sen, had seen Dr. Wu three times before the crime, as he was being treated at the clinic. On Wednesday morning he came in just as usual and while talking with the doctor, he whipped out a pistol and fired one shot, the bullet entering the victim's temple and causing instantaneous death.

The murderer then attempted to escape, but was caught and arrested by the Police. Questioned, he confessed to having killed Dr. Wu because the latter, besides being a doctor, had also been connected with a political organization in Pootung and, he alleged, had instigated the murder of Yang's parents.

Later in the day a shooting affray occurred in Connaught Road, near Ferry Road, resulting in the death of one Chinese detective of the Shanghai Municipal Police and one of the suspected criminals.

The affair took place at 6.25 p.m. when C. D. C.'s 293 and 329, on duty in Connaught Road, noticed four suspicious-looking characters, whom they followed to Lane 560 in Connaught Road. There the detectives ordered the suspects to stop, but the latter opened fire.

The C. D. C.'s retaliated and a gun battle ensued, in the course of which C. D. C. 329 and one of the suspects were fatally wounded. Both were later taken to the Police Hospital where they succumbed to their wounds. A Chinese female pedestrian sustained a minor wound to her right foot, and was taken to the St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

The other suspects managed to effect their escape, although it is known that another of the gangsters was wounded in the affray. Two mauser pistols and seven rounds of ammunition were seized by the Police.

The rest of the crimes were of comparatively minor nature, being mostly armed hold-ups and robberies, the biggest loot stolen being $6,070, taken from inmates of Room 318 of the Dah Sing Lodging House at 108 Hoopeh Road at 7.35 a.m. when five men, two of them reported to have been armed, intimidated the occupants and forced them to part with the money. The robbers, who spoke Shanghai dialect, then calmly left the place.

Next to be reported was a hold-up in the Wayside district, perpetrated by three highwaymen, one of them being armed with a pistol, who stopped a Chinese pedestrian near the corner of East Yuhang and Chaoufoong Road at 9 a.m. Yet another of the trio was armed with a small knife, and the robbers did their job thoroughly, taking away the victim's long gown, his felt hat and $7 in cash, before disappearing in one of the alleyways.

No other crimes were reported to the detectives until 5.30 p.m. when a Chinese cyclist was robbed of his vehicle in Sinza Road, a few yards from Yu Ya Ching Road, by two criminals, one of whom intimidated the victim with a pistol.

At the same time, five men, of whom two were armed, gained entrance to a Chinese dwelling at 884/17 Chengtu Road, getting away with jewellery and money.

An hour later, a gang of four highwaymen stopped a Chinese pedestrian in Bubbling Well Road, near Avenue Haig, and with one man covering the victim with a pistol, the others robbed him of his overcoat and $200 in cash. The victim did not raise an alarm, and the robbers made good their escape.

A Chinese dwelling at 17 Yuen Woo Li off Gordon Road was victimized at 7 p.m. by three Chinese robbers, the occupants being robbed of $115 in cash and clothing One of the gang was armed.

Another Chinese pedestrian lost his overcoat at 8 p.m. when he was approached by three robbers in Koo Ka Loong off Ningpo Road. One of the gang was armed and this took all the fight out of the victim, who allowed himself to be robbed.

Armed robbers struck again at 8.35 p.m. when they raided 109 Burkill Road, where they stole a large amount of money. This time the gang consisted of four members, three of whom brandished pistols to intimidate the occupants, all of whom were too frightened to raise an alarm.

Two more crimes were committed shortly afterwards, both of them being at 9.30 p.m., the first being a hold-up of a male Chinese, who was walking in Hart Road near Connaught Road when he was ordered to stop by two highwaymen, one of them armed with a gun, and robbed of one camel's hair long gown, a hat and ten dollars in cash. The second hold-up, committed at the same time, took place in Ferry Road. This was perpetrated by four men who stopped their victim near Pootoo Road and relieved him of a felt hat and $25. The sight of three pistols was enough for the victim and he raised no alarm.

But, if the Police were kept busy throughout Christmas Day, firemen were very much relieved to have had only one call, this being a small fire caused by a chimney, damaging a sun blind. Even ambulance calls were less frequent, not more than ten being made during the day.

Police Quell Trouble

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

The police were called out early yesterday morning to quell a labour disturbance in the premises of the "Shun Pao," a Chinese morning paper when more than 200 members of its staff refused to work and insisted on remaining behind in the building.

The men it was learned, composed mainly of linotype men and members of the paper's technical staff, resorted to action when their demands for higher wages were not promptly met.

During the disturbance eight members of the staff, who were on the black list of the Nanking regime, were unable to leave the premises until the arrival of the police. They were not detained, but their passage was blocked by the disgruntled men who refused to move.

The management of the paper, it was learned, came to a compromise at least for the time being with the workmen it was learned, and the paper came out as usual yesterday morning.

New Bar Association

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Leading Chinese dailies here state that the Nanking régime proposes to establish another Shanghai bar association trying to rally Chinese lawyers in Shanghai to its support. It is stated, however, that most of the lawyers registered with the Shanghai Bar Association have refused to register. Their determination is said to be so strong that they would rather change their profession.

An order from Chungking cancelling the registration of several Chinese lawyers in Shanghai because they attended hearings held in the courts in the French Concession recently taken over by the new régime was published recently by the Chinese press.

Foreigner Arrested in Gambling Raid

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

A lightning raid by a picked party of S.M.P. on a gambling den on Thursday night resulted in the detention of a foreigner, operating the den, and eight Chinese patrons. This raid followed an earlier raid on a similar place above the Silver Palace cabaret last Friday. As a result of this earlier raid the Silver Palace has had to close its doors and move North of the Creek, it is believed.

Large quantities of roulette appliances were seized during Thursday night's raid, besides some opium provided for patrons. The détained foreigner, who enjoys extraterritorial rights, will be charged in the near future. This raid marks the beginning of a drive by the police to clean up every gambling den in the foreign Settlement. Intensive activity is going on in all parts of the city in this drive, the police endeavouring to end this particular racket at one blow.

The den was situated in a flat on the first floor of an apartment house at 1477 Bubbling Well Road, the flat being luxuriously appointed, with three long tables and a roulette wheel, besides modern furniture. The windows were covered with special shutters, and the door, in best tradition, was fitted with a slot device enabling those inside to see out without persons wishing to enter being able to see in.

The flat, which had been under police observation for a considerable time, was raided shortly after 11 p.m. A lookout, dressed as a watchman, had to be "kidnapped" by the detectives, although he managed to raise an alarm. The police immediately rushed up the stairs and broke into the apartment, where they surprised the gamblers and the foreigner about to leave. The whole gang was taken into custody.

The police have knowledge of several other gambling houses operated by foreigners, and are particularly active in attempting to put an end to these places. Pressure is being brought to bear by the S.M.P. on these foreigners.

LOCAL FOOD PRICES

Average prices obtained on Dec. 27, 1940. H.—Hongkew Market and shops in Hongkew District W.—Seymour Road Market and shops in Western District F.C.—Markets and shops in the French Concession.

Beef	H.	W.	F.C.
Rib	2.00	2.00	1.80
Rump	2.20	2.20	1.85
Sirloin	2.20	2.20	—
Soup	1.20	1.20	1.20
Suet	1.20	2.00	0.80
Mutton			
Chop	1.30	1.30	1.25
Gigot	1.40	1.25	1.25
Pork			
Lard	1.40	1.50	1.52
Leg	1.80	1.90	0.87
Cutlet	1.80	1.80	1.67
Should.	1.60	1.80	1.65
Veal			
Cutlets	2.60	2.50	3.10
Buffalo			
Rump	1.40	1.40	1.40
Soup	0.90	0.90	0.90
Goat	—	—	1.44
Prepared Meat			
Bacon	2.40	2.40	2.00
Ham P.	2.50	2.40	5.00
Ham C.	2.10	2.10	2.40
S. pork	1.44	1.30	1.40
Fish			
Carp	1.00	0.80	1.10
.. live	1.20	1.20	1.10
Cod	0.90	0.75	0.85
Eel live	1.00	1.30	0.90
Manda.	1.60	1.50	1.60
Prawns	0.25	0.25	0.20
Salmon	1.30	1.40	—
Soles N.	0.80	0.75	0.70
W'bait	0.60	0.80	0.80
Yellow	0.55	0.55	0.60
Salted Fish			
Herring	0.60	0.50	0.65
Ribbon	0.60	0.60	0.70
Salmon	1.00	1.00	1.00
Poultry and Eggs			
Chick.	1.80	1.65	1.55
Duck	6.00	6.20	3.50
Eggs	2.40	2.20	1.80
Fruit			
Apples	0.50	0.50	0.50
Bananas	0.35	0.30	0.35
Lemons	0.60	0.55	0.55
Oranges	0.60	0.60	0.50
.. Imp.	6.00	6.00	5.00
Pears	0.50	0.55	0.55

Vegetabdes	H.	W.	F.C.
B'boo	1.20	1.20	0.90
Beans F.	0.80	1.00	0.80
B'root	0.10	0.20	0.15
C'bage	0.10	0.07	0.08
„ F.	0.15	0.25	0.10
„ S.	0.15	0.25	0.15
Carrots	0.10	0.30	0.15
Onions	0.30	0.25	0.25
Potatoes	0.25	0.30	0.25
„ S.	0.12	0.15	0.12
Spinach	0.15	0.25	0.12
To'toes	1.20	1.20	1.20
Turnips	0.10	0.20	0.10
Grocery			
Coffee	2.40	2.40	2.40
Flour A.	0.50	0.47	0.52
Flour C.	0.45	0.37	0.47
M'roni	0.80	0.75	0.90
Noodles	0.34	0.33	0.35
Salt T.	0.34	0.28	0.28
Salt C.	0.24	0.28	0.25
Sugar T.	0.85	0.82	0.80
Sugar H.	0.62	0.63	0.68
Tea	3.50	3.15	3.40
Oil and Bean Curd			
Bean	0.20	0.20	0.14
Salad	1.30	1.65	0.90
Soya	0.80	0.85	0.85
Milk, Butter and Bread			
Milk A	1.05	0.98	—
Milk, A	0.95	0.95	1.00
Milk B	0.65	0.68	0.50
Milk	3.20	3.00	1.75
Butter	0.80	0.60	0.80
M'arine	1.00	1.70	1.80
Bread F	0.45	0.45	0.45
Soaps			
Toilet	0.40	0.45	0.45
Wash.	0.30	0.50	0.36
Rice			
K'mee	—	0.52	0.55
Foreign	0.49	0.49	0.51
Coal and Fuel			
Anthrac.	250	260	265
Kitchen	220	240	220
Brique.	8.40	8.60	8.60
Charcoal	40	44	43
Wood	0.50	0.60	0.75
K'sene	0.84	0.90	0.88

THE health report of the French Municipality for the week ending December 28 shows that six foreigners and 201 Chinese died during the period, the foreigners as follows: one from influenza, one from tuberculosis, and four from non-communicable diseases. Chinese deaths were from the following: diphtheria, four; dysentry, one; influenza, one; meningitis, one; typhoid, seven; pneumonia, one; tuberculosis, seventeen; beri-beri, one; non-communicable diseases, 167. 250 bodies were collected during the week.

OBITUARIES

Mr. J. H. Teesdale

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Although the death of Mr. J. H. Teesdale, of Messrs. Teesdale Newman & MacDonald has been noted in these columns, an appreciation by "The Times" will be noted in Shanghai with interest:—

By his death the thinning ranks of the men who have helped to give modern Shanghai some of its best characteristics and to perpetuate and broaden the sound traditions which it inherited from an earlier generation of residents in the International Settlement, have sustained a further loss.

His residence in the Settlement covered the years 1899 to 1926, when he retired from his practice as a solicitor and from a variety of activities which had brought him into contact with many sides of the Settlement's life—its Municipal Council, the Shantung Road Hospital, commercial concerns, of several of which he was a director, and the Amateur Dramatic Society, of which he was chairman for four years. In all those relationships, as on the club committees on the club which he served, he won the regard and affection of colleagues of widely differing temperaments. A keen sportsman and rider, a cricketer, and a member of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, he had hosts of warm friends, not a few of whom were "Young" Chinese. These appreciated the kindly and sympathetic outlook which he displayed, without sacrificing a sound conservatism, in many of the controversial problems of the Settlement's affairs.

The following also appeared in the "Times" death notices:—

Dent.—On Nov. 9, 1940, at Birchwood, Horsell, Surrey, Ada, widow of Vyvyan Dent, of Shanghai, China, aged 70 years. Funeral Brookwood Cemetery, today, 12 o'clock.

George Eric Snuggs

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Members of the Shanghai Municipal Police learned with regret of the death of Detective Sergeant George Eric Snuggs, who died on Christmas Day after suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis affecting the larynx since September 16, when he was admitted to hospital.

The funeral of the late Police officer will take place at Hungjao Cemetery at 3 p.m. today, with the Very Reverend Dean Trivett officiating.

Mr. Snuggs was only thirty years of age, having been born at Dhow, India, on May 13, 1910. His father was Assistamt Controller of Stores with the East India Railway at Lucknow, India.

Before joining the Shanghai Municipal Police in 1935, the deceased was a corporal in the 2nd Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment. He joined the force on March 15 and was promoted Sergeant on March 15, 1938, serving for a time in the office of the D. C. (Sikhs). On June 20, 1939, he was appointed to the detective staff, and was attached to Chengtu Road station until recently, when he was transferred to Pootoo Road station.

He was admitted to hospital on September 16 and remained there until his death at noon on Wednesday. The late Mr. Snuggs leaves his mother, who is residing in Kent, England.

Funeral

Dec. 28.

In the presence of a large attendance of his colleagues and personal friends the remains of the late Detective Sergeant George Eric Snuggs of the Shanghai Municipal Police were laid to rest in the Hungjao Road Cemetery yesterday afternoon. Those present included Assistant Commissioners Grubb, Robertson and Liang, and a representation of Sergeant Chefs from the French Police under the charge of Inspecteur Magalon of Post Petain. The services were conducted by the Very Rev. A. C. S. Trivett of the Cathedral. The coffin which was draped with the Municipal flag was borne to the grave by the following colleagues:—Messrs. D. Orme, S. Holtan, Barnes-Cooke, J. Seaby, C. Weed and A. van Amerongen.

Mr. Alfred Vafiadis

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon at the Bubbling Well Cemetery for the late Mr. Alfred Vafiadis, aged 48 years, with Rev. C. W. Allan of the Union Church officiating. The chief mourner was Mr. Charles Kliene who represented Mrs. Vafiadis.

The deceased came to China about sixteen years ago and since that time had become well known along the China Coast. He has served as a deck officer with the China Navigation Company, Jardines, Moller's and The China Merchants Steam Navigation Company. He was also a member of Lodge Cosmopolitan. Until claimed by death Mr. Vafiadis was with the Chinese Maritime Customs serving with the Customs River Police. A detail of River Police officers under Inspector J. Kirichok paid their last respects to their old comrade and the casket was carried to the grave by Messrs. G. H. Short, H. W. Householder, A. Fingereth, C. Petrie, R. Schuigeland and K. A. Mansfield, fellow sergeants of the deceased. Among those present were Captain Y. Sugiyama, representing the Harbour Master's Office, Captain W. J. Gorman of the Harbour Fire Brigade and Mr. Fletcher of the Harbour Office.

Mr. Vafiadis is survived by his wife, Mrs. Theodosia Vafiadis, and two children, Katie and Danny.

Miss J. Francoise Meunier

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

Many friends of Mr. and Mrs. M. Meunier attended funeral services for their late daughter, Jacqueline Francoise Meunier, held yesterday morning, when a Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Pierre's Church by the Reverend Father de Breuzerie, who also conducted the last rites at Lokawei Cemetery. A beautiful blanket of white flowers from the parents rested upon the casket. The pall-bearers were Messrs.—M. Meunier, Eric Davies, R. V. Dent, G. Coquelot, P. A. Jehl, and A. Reynaud.

Mr. Petrus Joseph Schluper

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

In the presence of many relatives and friends, funeral services for the late Mr. Petrus Joseph Schluper, of the Revenue Department Shanghai Municipal Council, were held yesterday. A Requiem Mass was held in the morning at the Church of Christ the King, with the Reverend Father L. F. McGreal officiating. Interment took place at the Bubbling Well Cemetery where Father McGreal read the last rites.

Mr. Schluper had been with the Revenue Department of the Shanghai Municipal Council for the past 14 years and had gained a wide circle of friends. His sudden death on Christmas morning came as a severe shock to his wife and friends. The casket was borne to the grave by the following colleagues from the Revenue Department:—Messrs.—R.W. Slight, J. W. McCorkindale, Y. Nagai, C. P. Saveloff, A. Scheel and A. Wurm. A beautiful spray of sweet-peas from Mrs. Schluper, who was the chief-mourner, was lowered into the grave with the casket.

Mr. Johan Peter Berg Nergaard

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon at the Bubbling Well Cemetery for the late Mr. Johan Peter Berg Nergaard, a Norwegian citizen, aged 62 years, with the Reverend H. G. W. Hallock of Endeavourer's Church officiating. Mr. Nergaard has been a resident of Shanghai for the past 28 years and was born at Namsos, Norway. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annie Nergaard and four daughters. A profusion of beautiful flowers surrounded the casket that was draped with the Norwegian Flag.

Mrs. Gladys Baker

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

In the presence of relatives and many friends funeral services for the late Mrs. Gladys Baker were conducted by the Rev. H. G. W. Hallock of Endeavourers' Church at the Bubbling Well Cemetery yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Baker, widow of the late Mr. John Baker of Hongkong, is survived by three sons and two daughters, William, Thomas, Robert, Norma and Victoria, who were the chief mourners.

A beautiful blanket of flowers from the family together with a heart, spray and wreath, was lowered into the grave with the casket, that was carried to the grave by Messrs. William Baker, Thomas Baker, Robert Baker, Walter Baker, Forth Wolnizer and John Berglof.

S.M.C. Accepts Clarke Music Collection

Shanghai, Dec. 31.

The Shanghai Municipal Council has gratefully accepted an offer of Mr. E. G. Clarke to leave with the Municipal Library his music collection consisting of catalogues of vocal scores for oratories, operas and musical comedies and a supply of piano, violin and other instrumental works and 20 years' issue of the "Musical Times."

The Council has approved a recommendation by its Library Committee for the acquisition for the library of two lists of books to be purchased, one consisting of English books on business methods, psychology and psychotherapy and the other Chinese books on various topics.

At a recent meeting of the Library Committee the appointment was recommended of a qualified Chinese assistant librarian, there being at present 567 Chinese subscribers out of a total of 1,329.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Elimination:

How it is Done in Germany

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Does Hitler in these days still remember his old friend the "Rittmeister" (captain of the cavalry) Roland Strunk and the warnings that were sent about five years ago to the German government?

The first time that I heard the name of Roland Strunk was in December, 1935, or January, 1936, in Diredawa (Abyssinia). A young French diplomat asked me if I knew that man, and as I answered that I had never heard of him, the diplomat told me that Roland Strunk was an ex-officer in the German army and a war correspondent for the "Völkischer Beobachter," Hitler's own newspaper. He was with the Italian northern army and wrote pretty kind articles about the war and the Italian soldiers. At the same time, however, he sent secret reports to the German government with very bad opinions about the Italian army and the fighting power of the Italian soldiers. I was too courteous to ask the French diplomat how he knew that. That would be another story.

After the flight of Emperor Haile Selassie and the complete defeat of the Abyssinian warriors, I returned to Djibouti, and there I met the war correspondent Roland Strunk. In the suite of Marshal Badoglio, he had arrived in Addis Ababa and stayed there some days. One day the Italians honoured him with a very high decoration. That was in the morning, and in the afternoon of the same day Roland Strunk was expelled by the Italians. In the meantime the Italians had heard about the unfavourable secret reports about the Italian army to the German government. How was this possible? I presume that there was betrayal on the German side.

In Djibouti, Roland Strunk waited for a ship to return to Europe, and every evening we were together on the terrace of one of the Greek hotels on the Place Menelik, where the darkness was more terribly hot than the daylight. Most of the time we were three. The third man was also a German, the "Rittmeister" E., who, as had Roland Strunk, had fought in the Great War as an aviator. Between the two Germans was a difference. Roland Strunk was an authentic Nazi. Rittmeister E. was anti-Nazi, and several times a night they quarrelled. Then I appeased them, saying "Gentlemen, this terrible climate is not a climate for politics, nor even for beer, which is in a short time spoiled here," they laughed, and I began to speak about other things.

But these two Germans were enthusiastically of one opinion when they talked (not favourably) about the Italians and the Italian army. I remember one night that Roland Strunk said: "I know the Italians from the last war. They were bad soldiers. Now they shout still louder and they are still worse soldiers than they were in 1915. And the moment Germany trusts the Italians and goes together with Italy, Germany is lost."

Rittmeister E. deemed it necessary to warn Roland Strunk: "You know I am completely of your opinion, but you must be careful about uttering this opinion. We do not know how international relations will develop. Perhaps in Berlin they wish an alliance with Italy, and your opinion will then not be well received."

Roland Strunk burst out: "I wrote the same opinion in my reports to Berlin, and I need not be careful, because my Fuhrer is also my best friend."

That evening Roland Strunk went early to his room because he had to write some letters, and Rittmeister E. and I walked a little and visited the famous bar "Au Palmier en Zinc" where there is in the main room a palm tree of zinc. Rittmeister E. was thoughtful. Had he a presentiment? Then he said pensively, "It would be better if Roland Strunk were more cautious in his expressions. If his opinions do not agree with the projects of Berlin, it might be possible that he would be made to disappear."

"Disappear?" I asked. "Do you mean that they would put him in prison or murder him?"

Rittmeister E. laughed sadly and answered, "It is an ugly word 'murder', but in Berlin they are very clever in handling people who are not agreeable to the men in power."

This conversation took place in June 1936, and I almost forgot about it till October 1937. I was then in Bombay and read there in the papers that Roland Strunk had been killed in a duel in the woods of Teplin, north-west of Berlin. Roland Strunk had been heavily insulted, and, therefore, a duel had to be fought out under the severest conditions. Roland Strunk shot first, and missed. His opponent wounded him with a shot in the stomach, and two days afterwards Roland Strunk died in hospital.

I wondered. Rittmeister E. had told me that Roland Strunk was one of the best marksmen of the German army and.....he missed.

One and a half years later I met in Manila a German who had known Roland Strunk. This German was anti-Hitler. We talked about Strunk and his death. I expressed my astonishment that he had missed his opponent, and the German after some hesitation said, "There are some people who say that Roland Strunk was betrayed and that his pistol was not charged with a bullet."

And I must think of the words of Rittmeister E. in the Bar du Palmier en zinc in Djibouti.

But Hitler, does he think in these days of Roland Strunk's words, that Germany will be lost if she goes together with Italy?

J. K. BREDERODE

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Shanghai Traffic:

A Dream of Better Things

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—The other day it took me 27 minutes from the Bund to the Race Club, having had the misfortune to run against every red light on Nanking Road. That night I had a dream; here it is:

Some clever fellow in the Traffic Department, figured out a schedule for Nanking Road. Starting with the Bund "red light," a warning was sent to Szechuen Road and subsequent junctions that the traffic was to move North and South for 2-3 minutes and all roads crossing Nanking Road worked on the same schedule, so when the light was green at the Bund, traffic moved with the green lights, say, to Chekiang Road, a break here and another run through to the Race Club; the more I thought of this dream the more convinced I am that it can be worked.

Also I saw the buses being sent up the Bund to Peking Road and there turned around instead of clustering up Nanking Road and the Bund at this point.

Further I saw the Traffic Department stop buses from racing down our heavily congested Central District and prohibit them from passing each other going in the same direction; also it came clearly to me that rickshaws were stopped behind buses and not permitted to pass a stationary bus and get caught in the middle of the road between the moving bus and motor traffic.

Next our wide-awake Traffic Department, approached the Automobile Club to call for volunteers to act as "Special Traffic Policemen;" their duties would be to report motorists and others who pass on the "blind" side and break other traffic regulations. Once our "roadhogs" realized that any private car may contain a "Special" they would undoubtedly stop speeding and cutting in, which is quite the order of the day; further "Specials" would report cars who cannot or do not keep up with the traffic and leave 10 or 15 car lengths to tempt rickshaws and pedestrians from making a wild dash only to be caught by traffic moving in the opposite directions; I feel sure these drivers are the cause of most accidents and are probably afraid to keep up with other cars due to some mechanical defect. After a report the Police might check up on the car reported.

Finally I think the Traffic Department, might try to cash in on Municipal parking spaces; my idea would be to charge all cars who use public parking space, say, $8 per month or 40 or 50 cents per day. With this revenue they could provide police watchmen to save owner drivers from spare parts thieves and also the "look see" boys, who are once again becoming a regular pest.

What about re-introducing one-way traffic on Hankow Road?

OWNER DRIVER FOR 20 YEARS.

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Meaning Wanted:

"4th Dimensional Thinking"

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I am very much moved by Dr. Frank Buckman's Christmas Message to the Far East, which was published in your esteemed paper on Dec. 22, 1940.

Will you or any of your readers kindly explain to me what does "The gift of the fourth dimensional thinking" mean?

E. L. S.

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Sportsmen:

And Japanese Rules

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I see from the papers that a number of "sportsmen" out shooting on Sunday had their guns confiscated by the Japanese Military because they were shooting in prohibited zones. Well, they have only themselves to blame.

When I received my permit I received a map of the territory in which shooting is permitted. This map is also printed on the back of the hunting permit, together with the rules in English of the penalties incurred for infraction of such rules, one of which is confiscation of guns for hunting in prohibited areas. Pleading ignorance is no excuse.

It is quite clear to me that if one desires to shoot in the western area, he must proceed as far as Chipao up the Hungjao Road before he can shoot, and then must hunt out, not back towards Shanghai.

Now the Minghong Road: All country on the left of the road going to Minghong is prohibited, this is shown as clear as possible on the permit.

Last Sunday I made a tour of both roads and saw dozens of sportmen ignoring the zone regulations on both roads. The fact is that the nearer to Shanghai the better the hunting. There is more cover and feed and the birds are packing in to the nearer areas which are debarred.

I now appeal to all brother sportmen to play the game and stick to the areas where hunting is permitted. If this is not done nobody can blame the Japanese authorities, should they withdraw the present privileges and so penalize the whole of the shooting fraternity for the sake of a few stupid, ignorant or mean people who wilfully or otherwise insist on hunting where they should not be.

I have shot in China for the past thirty years, and it gives me unalloyed joy to again be able to get out with my gun and dogs, even if game is scarce in the permitted areas. I—and I am sure true sports will agree—am not interested in huge bags. I like to see my dogs work, I like to match my wits against the cunning China pheasant, I love the fresh air and exercise, as you must all do who are true sportsmen. Do not spoil this glorious privilege. Play the game and stick to the rules.

Anyone in doubt can ring me up 71076, or call on me at the Auto Palace Co., 100 Cardinal Mercier, and I would be only too pleased to help with any necessary advice.

Finally, please do not pot sitting pheasants alongside the road from your cars. I have seen this happen a dozen times in the last month by so-called sportsmen whom I can name if necessary.

FRANK GATES

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Points on Deportment

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—May I suggest that your correspondent FRANK GATES add the following advice to all would-be sportsmen who call upon him for advice regarding shooting.

1. Don't drive on Chinese roads without the necessary licence plates. To do so is asking for confiscation of the car, and "they have only themselves to blame."
2. Don't pot at stray villagers, or if you accidentally hit one be a sport and pay up, but most certainly don't blame it on to some other fellow and then beat it, leaving him to take the rap.
3. Don't shoot in a prohibited area, such as Tazang, as sportsmen "whose names can be given if necessary" may find it most unpleasant to be themselves shot at, chased, and eventually caught, having, as your correspondent rightly points out "only themselves to blame."

I feel sure your correspondent can speak with full experience on all three suggestions, since incidents of a like nature have occurred only recently.

ANOTHER SPORTSMAN

Shanghai, Dec. 25.

Graceful Act:

By a German Lady

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I operate a small business in Shanghai which is patronized by people of all nationalities. Today my Russian assistant told me that a German lady with whom we have done business for some six years came in and said that she was so pleased with the attention she had received that she wanted to mark it in some way. She gave my lady assistant an embroidered handkerchief.

For all the goods and work the German lady received she also paid in full and there the transactions might well have ended.

Individual Germans can act like this and I believe that many have similar thoughts, yet as a nation they are now rubbing their hands gleefully over the wholesale destruction of the houses of English people and the death and mutilation of the inhabitants of these houses.

What has gone wrong that individuals can be Christian-minded but as a nation they rejoice in death and destruction? Must there be some further purge of humanity before we can all, in national as well as private life, get the proper "Christmas Spirit"?

ENGLISH.

Shanghai, Dec. 23.

Replies To Ads:

Acknowledgments Requested

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—May I through your valued columns appeal to advertisers to show more consideration to persons who answer advertisements.

I have personally answered regularly on various subjects, often enclosing a stamped envelope, yet I have received a very small percentage of replies. I know of many others, including reliable persons seeking employment, who have not received any acknowledgment of their numerous letters.

As an employer myself I consider it not only a courtesy but a duty to answer, in no matter what form, any apparently genuine reply which is given to a "mysterious" box number, while bearing in mind the anxiety of applicants.

It may be argued that in some cases there are too many, but it is a simple matter to insert a following advertisement to the effect that the requirements have been fulfilled, which I have noticed has been done by a few considerate advertisers, without revealing their identities.

When stamped envelopes are enclosed it can hardly be termed legal to confiscate them, and it is inexcusable when it requires so little effort to return them containing a few words such as: "Vacancy filled—thank you for reply—Box....". This would also favour the reputation of the newspaper concerned.

BECONSIDERATE.

Shanghai, Dec. 23.

Y.M.C.A. or Y.W.C.A.:

Where All the Girls Go

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I have come to the conclusion that the psychology of film-producers and night-club owners is wrong. The dozen girls behind the bar, or on the screen, and depend on the lads rolling up in their hundreds.

It would prove much a better draw if they went in for luring the females by means of screening attractive males. The moral that where there are women men will follow, might easily and very truthfully be challenged by the statement "where there are men girls won't leave until they are carried off."

Let any poor fellow try and find a seat in the coffee bar of the Y.M.C.A. on Bubbling Well Road during the week-end or at holiday time, I am sure it must try the patience of the management to keep them from invading the whole premises. Why don't they clear off and let fellows enjoy their privileges. One of these days men will find out what huge imposters women are, and then, might take the pleasure of....?

A bachelor's dream of paradise:—

NO WOMEN.

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Bus Squeeze:

A Scheme Commended

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—S.Y.Y's scheme of giving prizes for drawn numbers of used bus tickets is an ingenious one. Conductors will still make their small profits by giving ten-cent tickets for twenty-cent fares, but passengers are sure to demand a ticket for their money.

I can see the termini crowded with people waiting to pick up discarded tickets from absent-minded and careless fares, or those who "never have any luck."

For my own part I shall gladly discontinue buying season tickets and go in for the more speculative business—unless separate prizes are given for monthly buyers.

J. C. DE B.

Shanghai, Dec. 22.

Ill-feeling:

And Some of its Causes

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—The British slogan: "right or wrong, my country" and the German song: "Deutschland ueber alles" have probably caused more ill-feeling between these two countries than anything else. Both were meant to stimulate patriotism, but I doubt that the respective authors expected the aggressive interpretation which has done so much to poison people's minds.

If the meaning of either were to justify any wrong in the name of patriotism it would be a flagrant violation of common sense. Trying to clear up this impression would be worth while, but can it be done?

The amount and variety of news and information the papers bring daily is amazing. There are pages devoted to almost everything. Would it not be a good idea to add a page for the development of common sense even if news, which are so contradictory nowadays, had to be cut down somewhat?

We glorify war but is, what is going on at present, really glorious?

Is not increasing the military strength of a country a direct incentive to war?

Is it not misusing material and misdirecting productive capacity when the respective products are designated for destructive purposes?

Is it a real solution of the unemployment problem when part of the unemployed are turned into soldiers and the rest is employed for producing the equipment of soldiers and armaments?

Soldiers have to be supported just like the unemployed by those engaged in productive work.

Is it not obvious that soldiers trained for fighting want to prove that they are not supported for decorative purposes only?

Why should one country wish to dominate or even crush another when co-operation would be of mutual benefit and so much easier?

Would it not be common sense to make life easier for the labouring classes doing hard work when we introduce labour saving machines?

What is the use of saving time unless we plan how to utilise the time saved without causing unemployment?

Such and many other questions might be discussed on a common sense page dispassionately and without prejudice.

H. SCHLOTEN.

Shanghai, Dec. 27, 1940.

***The quotation:—"Our Country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country right or wrong!" is a toast proposed by Stephen Decatur, American naval commander in 1816. Another version is attributed to J. J. Crittenden of Kentucky.—ED.

World Chaos:

And the Way of Christ

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—HOT-TEMPERED, in your issue of today, Sunday 22, is good enough to suggest that "the way of Christ," as exemplified by the treatment of the money-changers and others in the temple, is a good way out of world chaos. I have carefully reread all four references but am constrained to ask H. T. to condescend to explain the practical application of the pretty story to our troubles of today.

Of course he cannot—the request is purely rhetorical.

Why, oh why, sir, do you permit your valuable space to be absorbed by bleatings such as H.T.'s.?

COG.

Shanghai, Dec. 22.

S. A. Beggar's Camp:

The Unfortunate Children

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I would be much obliged if you would be so kind as to forward the enclosed cheque to the Salvation Army for the above cause.

I hope they give special attention to those unfortunate children used by the professional beggars of whom so great a number is seen on our streets nowadays. I have personally seen a woman pinch and maul a child to make it cry and thus arouse pity. It is a dreadful thing.

I hope the Salvation Army with their splendid organization will be able to do something towards alleviating the lot of these unfortunate children, very especially.

PAULINE RENACRE.

Shanghai, Dec. 23.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (*continued*)

Troops in War:

Advantage of Seasoned Men

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—In the last seven months I have pondered often on a question which had already occupied my mind many years ago, a question which is not treated in the many books written by British, French, German, Russian and other generals about the war of 1914-1918. It concerns the difference in value between troops who have already been under fire and those for whom the grim reality of war is new.

In 1914-1918 the facts were striking. The war began between Austria and Serbia. For the Austrians the war was a new experience; the Serbians had carried on in 1912 and 1913 the two Balkan wars, and the mighty Austrian army could do almost nothing against the small Serbian army. The Serbians evacuated their capital, Belgrade, on the frontier of the country, but they left there one battalion to cover the retreat. That lone battalion fought for several days against some Austrian divisions, and then retired quietly. At the end of 1914 the Serbians were even able to retake Belgrade.

In Western Europe the fighting began between Belgians and Germans. This battle on Meuse I witnessed for a time as a war correspondent. The Germans were much better armed and trained than the Belgians, who, however, resisted, the first day a little hesitatingly, and for the first days the Germans also were not sure of themselves. Belgians and Germans saw war for the first time.

Before superior forces the Belgians had to retire behind the fortresses of Antwerp. The bulk of the Germans marched to France, and these German troops, with more or less war experience, defeated the fresh French troops at Charleroi. About three weeks afterwards the French soldiers, who had been in the meantime hardened to war, fought the victory of the Marne.

In the last days of September, or the first days of October 1914, the Germans began the attack on Antwerp. The fortresses of that city could not resist the heavy artillery of the Germans, who came in superior power. The danger existed that the retreat of the Belgian field army, which was also within Antwerp, would be cut off, and the Hero-King Albert ordered the evacuation of Antwerp by his field army.

During the last days of the fighting I was in Antwerp, and I saw the Belgian field army set over to the western bank of the Scheldt.

I left Antwerp the day before the Germans entered, a day on which the city itself was heavily bombarded, and returned to the Netherlands, where I, from a border town, wired my reports to my newspaper (the "Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant"). The following day I was in West Belgium, Ghent, Bruges, and witnessed the retreat of the Belgian field army and the heroic fighting of its rear-guard.

The battle of the Yser began. Sixty thousand tired but not disheartened Belgian troops had to resist some hundred thousand fresh Germans, who tried to break through to Calais. They did not succeed.

The Belgians had inundated the terrain, but I believe it was not only the inundation which prevented the Germans getting into Calais. The German troops with war experience were at that time fighting in France; the German troops who attacked the Yser line were mostly fresh troops—too fresh. They were doubtless fine soldiers, but they did not yet know the "song of bullets and balls." The 60,000 tired Belgian soldiers had, in more than two months' hard fighting, become soldiers with war experience. Certainly there were other factors in that battle, but we must not forget that one.

In 1915 Italy declared war on Austria. The Austrians had already learned "the song of the balls and the bullets" and the Italians, without that experience, lost battle after battle. British and French troops arrived to support the Italians, and only after these troops had been mixed up with the Italians was the Austrians' victorious march stopped.

In 1916 Rumania came into the war. The Rumanian soldiers, without war experience (the Rumanians hardly fought in the first and second Balkan wars), were very quickly finished by the Germans and Austrians who had already carried on war for two years.

When Turkey came into the war, the Turkish soldiers had already had a very hard war experience, because they had really fought in the first and second Balkan wars, and at the Dardanelles they were worthy opponents of the British and French.

And now this war, World War II. Undoubtedly Hitler himself has had a great influence on the conduct of the war. He has never been in a military academy, but he was in another academy, that of real war—World War I. He is a man with brains and he learned much at the front—the psychology of the soldiers, the difference between soldiers who have war experience and those who have not, and this knowledge he has used. In his last discourse he said that he had had 22 non-commissioned officers of the last war appointed generals.

The war began in Poland. Hitler sent there many thousands of the oldest soldiers who had been in the war of 1914-1918. These soldiers were mixed up with young men who had yet to undergo the baptism of fire, which was made much easier for the young soldiers by the presence of the veterans.

The Polish army consisted (as did the British, French and Belgian armies) only of 5-10 per cent of soldiers with war experience. The German army in Poland had at least 20-30 per cent. veterans.

The Germans went into Poland with overwhelming man-power. It seems to have been Hitler's intention to give as many young soldiers as possible war experience in Poland, where the Germans could be sure of victory. That was in September 1939.

In the early spring of 1940 Hitler began his attack on Norway. He sent there part of the soldiers who had already fought in Poland and many young soldiers who could have their first war experience in Norway and their baptism of fire.

The moment Hitler began his great offensive against the Netherlands, Belgium and France he disposed of at least a million soldiers who knew "the song of the balls and the bullets." The first attack was directed against the Netherlands.

The Netherlands army had not been at war for more than a century and the oldest generals of that army had no war experience, except perhaps some little colonial wars—but that experience did not count here. The best method for a general in this case is a slow retirement, to harden his troops to the reality of war. This was impossible in the Netherlands, not only on account of treason, but for the reason that the distance from the German frontier to the North Sea is not a hundred miles. Before the Netherlands army could be hardened to the reality of war the country was taken.

Then came the German attack against the Belgian, French and British armies. The German army had at this moment a big percentage of war-experienced troops. The French, British and Belgian armies had not more than 5-10 per cent. war-experienced soldiers in their ranks, although the older officers and non-commissioned officers were already (by the war of 1914-1918) hardened to modern war, even, in a smaller degree to aeroplanes and tanks.

I presume that not only was the better equipment of the Germans an influence on the issue of the Battle of France, but also this difference in war experience, and I wonder that André Maurois, in his book "Tragedy in France," does not touch on this side of the question.

The fact that the British army was saved was of great importance, not so much on account of the wonderful fighting at Dunkirk and the masterly retreat, or because Great Britain now has some hundreds of thousands more men, but because those hundreds of thousands are now war-experienced soldiers.

The Greek army, which we all admire so much and to whom we all are so thankful, was of all the fighting armies the army with the greatest war experience. The oldest officers and non-commisioned officers, and certainly all the Greek generals, have experience of four wars—the first and second Balkan wars, the Great War, and the Greco-Turkish war (1923).

In Egypt and Libya the British and the Italians have about the same war experience, for the Abyssinian war does not count as a war against European modern-equipped troops. The Abyssinian war was something like a "bloody operetta," wherein Marshal Graziani sang the tenor part with the High C.

J. K. BRIEDERODE

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

"All Men Are . . .":

And Especially the Germans

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Herr Robert Ley, Leader of the German Labour Front, rears up on his hind legs and brays thusly in "Der Angriff."

> The British lie and lie again and keep on lying. They lie without blushing, with a coolness unique in the history of mankind.

Hear now what Vellerius Paterculus wrote anent the Germanic barbarian tribes in A.D. 31 and, judging by the taraddiddles fathered by Dr. Goebbels and his ilk, the race has made but little progress on the path to strict veracity.

> The old scribe wrote in A.D. 31, as all may read to-day:—"*Natum mendacio genus et in summa feritate versatissimi*":—"A nation of born liars and prone to frightfulness."

Taking it by and large, seemingly there is more than a modicum of veracity in the hasty remark of the Psalmist?

The Psalmist, himself, however, was a man, hence it is open to doubt or at least Higher Criticism if what he "said in his haste" was—oh what's the use? Melly *Clismas*.

SAMURAI.

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Christmas Message:

4th Dimensional Thinking

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—At this Christmas time I am sure many of us were stirred by the thoughtful message of DR. FRANK N. D. BUCHMAN which appeared in your valued paper of December 22. Some of us still wonder what DR. BUCHMAN means by "fourth dimensional thinking!" I think this is a message of peculiar significance to us here in the Far East just now. Practically every nation in the world is represented here, and we have all seen enough to know that modern war is just destruction and loss for all, victor as well as vanquished. Yet there must be law and order in the world or else how can we ever have peace? The question now comes up: whose law and order are we to live under? The answer surely is God's law, and this is where "fourth dimensional thinking" comes in. Surely there is a way out, a way out for Japan and China, and a way out for America and Japan without resorting to the foolish and terrible arbitrament of war. I am not preaching appeasement, I am sure that is of the Devil, but I do feel that a way out of the impasse would be found if enough men and women in each country were willing to recognize the existence of the Fourth Dimension, and to seek a solution which is far beyond the limited powers of mere human thinking and understanding.

Where are our modern prophets? We need in every nation now men and women, hundreds of them, who will listen to the voice of God and speak out fearlessly what is His will for their country and for the world. We have been celebrating the Birthday of One whose Fourth Dimensional Thinking and fearless outspokenness brought Him to a cross. In order to save the world from further foolishness it may be that many followers of Him will have to do likewise.

D. FARQUHARSON.

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

***All of which would be perfect, so long as fourth dimensional thinking no longer permits of thanksgiving to God for Hitler.—ED.

The Mails:

Where are Magazines Going?

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I note that for some weeks my copy of the "Manchester Guardian (Weekly) and "King-Hall News Letter" have not been reaching me, while other journals (weeklies) from England have been arriving all right.

Have other of your readers had this experience?

It would seem that certain British magazines are on a black list and it is not worth our while subscribing to these if they are to end up (e.g.) in the W.P.B. of the Shanghai G.P.O.

I should be glad to have some illumination on this matter from your readers (A) in Shanghai and (B) in outports.

"HANKOWITE."

THE Shanghai Birth Control League, which started its existence in Shanghai in 1934, was first organized as an information bureau under the chairmanship of Dr. F. C. Yen. Since then the League has been working along the following two main lines: (1) the giving of free birth control advice through a clinic jointly conducted with the Chinese Medical Association at 29 Tszepang Road, and (2) the production of birth control supplies cheap enough for China's masses. The birth control movement in China started in 1921 and centres were organized in Peiping, Shanghai, Canton and Hongkong. Unsettled political conditions and other hindrances slowed up the progress at the beginning.

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Money and Exchange

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1940

BANK'S SELLING RATES 10 A.M.

£1 @ 3 11/16d.	$ 66.57
U.S. $100 @ 5 1/2	$1,818.18
Yen 23 3/8	$100
Guilders 10 1/4	100
Rupees 19 3/8	100
Pesos 11	100
Hongkong $23 1/4	100

BANK'S BUYING RATES 10 A.M.

£1 @ 3 13/16d.	$ 66.78
U.S. $100 @ 5 5/8	$1,777.00
London—demand, $1=	3 13/16d.
4 months' sight credits	3 13/16d.
4 months' sight docts	3 11/16d.
6 months' sight credits	3 11/16d.
6 months' sight docts	3 9/16d.
New York—demand, $100=	U.S. $5 5/8
4 months' sight credits	U.S. $5 5/8
4 months' sight docts	U.S. $5 1/8

NEW YORK/LONDON CASH RATES

£1=U.S. $4.03 1/2 U.S. $1=$9.46d.

INTERBANK CLOSING SELLING RATES

Sterling ..... 3 11/16d.	U.S. $5 1/2
Hongkong/London	.....1/3

NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY

Java Guilders .....Selling 10 1/4

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO., INC.

Buying	U.S.$100=$1,777.778	£1=$66.782
Selling	U.S.$100=$1,818.182	£1=$68.571

HUA HSING COMMERCIAL BANK

Sterling	Selling Rate @	6d	per	H.H.$ 1
"	Buying " @	6 1/32	"	H.H.$ 1
U.S.$	Selling " @	9 7/16	"	H.H.$100
"	Buying " @	9 9/16	"	H.H.$100
Local $ (Fapi)	selling @	168	per	H.H.$100
	buying @	175	"	H.H.$100

CUSTOMS OFFICIAL RATES FOR DUTY PAYMENTS

Gold Unit 1.00—Hua Hsing	$2.792
Gold Unit 1.00—Local Dollar	$4.886

Local Exchange Report

Messrs. Drakeford, Davis & Wilson

INTER BANK CASH DELIVERY

£	Highest 3 13/32	Lowest 3 3/16
U.S. $	5 9/16	5 17/32

MERCHANT CLOSING RATES

		SELLING		BUYING January
£	T.T.	3 1/8	4 m/s. l.c.	3 1/16
U.S.$	T.T.	5 1/2	4 m/s. l.c.	5 3/8
Rs.	T.T.	19 1/4	15 d/s.	19 7/8

U.S. $/£ CROSS RATE CASH QUOTATIONS

New York closing rate for Dec. 30	4.03 1/2
Local Sellers of U.S.$ against £ at the close	3.78 1/2
Local Buyers of U.S.$ against £ at the close	3.79 1/2

The local market opened with sellers at 3 33/32d. sterling and 5 5/32 in U.S.$. Sellers of dollars appeared later in the morning at 5 7/16 which maintained a steady feeling until noon. Later merchant demand brought about an easier feeling on a very quiet market. At the close best sellers were:—

3 11/32	sterling	5 1/2	U.S.$	Cash
3 1/16	"	5 5/32	"	Jan.

Local Commodities

Yesterday's Prices

Cotton yn. 20's, D.H. peir bale	$1,372
Tungchow cotton .. per picul	233
Shanghai cotton .... per picul	212
Flour, local .. per bag (491b.)	$18.00
Flour, imported per bag (491b.)	21.50
Raw silk, Steamfil, 20/22 78%	picul $4,900

Rubber Output

Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Ltd., secretaries of the undermentioned Estates announce that the output of rubber from the Estate during the month of November was as follows:—

	lb.
Alma Estates, Ltd.	53,700
Batu Anam (Johore) Rubber Estates, Ltd.	42,000
Chemor United Rubber Co., Ltd.	54,433
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ltd.	36,890
Kapayang Rubber Est., Co., Ltd.	14,894
Repah Rub. & Tapioca Est., Ltd.	44,245
Rubber Trust, Ltd.	228,943
Semambu Rubber Estates, Ltd.	32,760
Samagaga Rubber Co., Ltd.	39,500
Senawang Rubber Estates Co., (1921) Ltd.	50,500
S'hai Malay Rubber Estates, Ltd.	47,348
S'hai Seremban Rub. Estates, Ltd.	20,119
Sua Mangglis Rubber Co., Ltd.	18,600
Tebong Rubber Estates, Ltd.	123,057

A SHARP drop has been noted in Japanese exports to India during the past year as a consequence of the strict enforcement of the licence system by the Indian Government, Mr. Akiyoshi Komatsu, head of the Mitsui Trading Co.'s Karachi office, told the Tokyo press some days ago when he arrived from India aboard the Haruna Maru together with 154 Japanese evacuees. Japanese cotton goods, he stated, have been particularly affected.

London Stocks

Monday's Closing Quotations

	Dec. 27	30
U.K. LOANS		
3 1/2% War Loan (Red.)	£103	103
3% Defence Loan	101 1/8	101
CHINESE BONDS		
4 1/2% Gold Loan, 1898	44	44
4 1/2% Anglo-French Loan, 45	45	45
5% Crisp Loan, 1912	26 1/2	26 1/2
5% Reorg. Loan, 1913	34	34
8% Stg. Notes, 1925	10	10
5% Honan Rly., 1905	16 1/2	16 1/2
5% Hukuang Rly., 1911	15	15
5% " " " (Ger. Is.)	13	13
5% Lung Tsing U. H. Rly.	14	14
5% S'hai-Nanking Rly.	16	16
5% T'sin-Pukow Rly. B.	15	15
5% " " G.	15	15
5% " " (Supl. Loan) B.	15	15
5% " " (Supl. Loan) G.	15	15
5% Canton-Kowloon Rly.	13	13
5% Chinese Imp. Rly.	47	47
JAPANESE BONDS		
5% Sterling Loan, 1907	26	26
6% Sterling Loan, 1924	32	30
BANKS AND INSURANCE		
Chartd. Bank of I. A. & C.	8 1/4	8 1/4
H. & S. Bank (Ldn. Reg.)	77	76
" " " (Col. Reg.)	82 N	82 N
Mercantile Bank of India	10 7/8	10 7/8
National Bank of India	32	32
Un. Ins. Soc. of Canton	20	20
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIALS		
Bristol Aeroplane	9/9	9/9
British American Tobacco	89/4 1/2	89/4 1/2
Dunlop Rubber	32/6	32/6
Imp. Chem. Industries	29/10 1/2	29/9
United Steel	21/7 1/2	21/10 1/2
Woolworths	54/3	53/9
MINES		
Chinese Eng. & Min.	18/3	18/3
Chosen Corp.	4/-	4/-
Marsman Investments	7/6	7/6
Pekin-Syndicate	2/-	2/-
Sub-Nigel	160/-	153/9xd
Western Holdings	9/6	9/6
MISCELLANEOUS		
Great Western Rly.	32 3/4	32 3/4
Gula Kalumpong Rubber	15/7 1/2	15/7 1/2
London, Midland & Scot.	13 3/8	13 1/2
S'hai Elec. Construction	15/-	15/-
S'hai Waterworks "A"	13 1/2	13 1/2
Shell Transport & Trad.	38/9	38/9

xd.—ex. dividend

New York Stocks

Monday's Closing Quotations

	Dec. 28	30		Dec. 28	30
Adams Exp	6 3/8	6 1/4	Lockheed	27 1/4	27 3/8
Alg Lud	24 1/2	24 1/2	Loew's	31 1/4	31 1/2
Allis Chal	35 5/8	36	Loft Inc	17 1/4	17 1/4
Alum Ltd	71	71	Mack Trks	30 3/4	31 1/2
Amer Can	86 1/8	87 1/8	Martin	30	30 3/4
Am Cyan	37 1/2	37 3/4	McK & R	24 1/2	25
Am For Pr	0 1/8	0 1/8	Mont Ward	37	37 3/8
" $7 pfd	14 3/8	14 7/8	Mountain	3 1/4	3 1/4
Am Loco	15 7/8	16 1/8	Nat Avian	10	10 1/8
Am Metal	18 1/4	18 1/2	Nat City B	*26	*27 7/8
Am Radtr	6 7/8	7	Nat Dairy	13 3/8	13 1/2
Am R Mill	14 1/4	15 1/4	Nat List	22 7/8	23
Am Smlt	43 1/2	43 1/4	Nat Lead	17	17 1/4
Am Sug	13	14 1/4	Nat P & L	6 3/8	7
Am T & T	166 1/4	167	Nat Sup	5 3/8	5 1/4
Am Tob B	71	71 1/2	N Y Cent	13 1/2	14 1/2
Am Wtwrks	6 1/4	6 1/8	Niag Hud	2 1/2	3
Anaconda	26 7/8	27	N A Avian	10 1/2	10 3/8
Atchison	17 3/8	18 3/8	N Am Co	16 3/8	16 1/2
Avian Cpn	4 1/2	4 3/8	N Pacific	6	6 1/4
Bald Loco	18 1/2	18 3/8	O I Glass	45 1/4	47 1/2
Balt & O	3 1/2	3 1/2	Pac Gas	28	*27 1/2
Barber	9 1/2	9 1/2	Packard	3 1/4	3 1/4
Barns Oil	8	8 1/8	Pan A Air	15	16
Bendix	33 1/4	34 1/4	Paramount	10 1/2	10 1/2
Beth Steel	85 1/4	86 3/8	Penn R R	22 3/8	22 3/8
Bliss	18 1/2	19 1/2	P & R Coal	0 7/8	0 7/8
Boeing	16 1/4	16 1/2	Phil Pet	41 1/4	40 1/2
Borg War	19	18 1/4	P S of N J	28 1/2	28 3/8
Briggs	25	25 1/2	Pullman	25 1/4	25 1/2
Budd Mfg	4 1/2	5 1/4	Pure Oil	8 1/4	8 1/2
Can Pac	3 1/2	3 1/2	Radio	4 1/2	4 1/2
Case J I	52 1/4	53 1/2	Reading	13 1/2	13 3/8
Celanese	27	27 1/4	Rem Arms	*5 1/4	*5 1/4
Chase N B	*32 1/4	*33 1/2	Rep Avian	5	5 1/4
Ches & O	43	43	Rep Steel	22 1/4	22 3/8
Chrysler	73 1/4	73 1/4	Rev C & B	10 1/2	10 1/2
Col G & E	4 1/2	4 3/8	Rey Tob B	31 1/2	30 3/8
Col Credit	28 1/2	28 7/8	Safeway	42 1/2	42 1/2
Com & Sth	0 3/8	0 3/8	Schenley	11 1/2	11 1/8
Cons Edis	22 1/2	22 1/2	Sears Roeb	78 3/8	79
Cons Oil	5 1/8	5 3/8	Shell U Oil	11	10 7/8
Cont Can	37 1/2	38 1/4	Soc Vac	8	8 3/8
Cont Oil	18 3/8	19 1/4	Sthrn Pac	7 1/2	8 1/2
Copld St	18 3/4	18 7/8	Sthrn Rly	21 1/2	21 1/2
Curtis Wr	9	9 1/8	Spicer	36 1/2	38
" A	28 1/4	28 1/4	Std Brands	6 1/8	6 1/8
Decca	20 1/2	21 1/4	Std G & E	1	1
Dist Cpn	18 1/2	17 1/2	Std Oil C	18	18
Douglas	76 1/4	77 3/8	Std Oil N J	33 1/2	33 3/8
Du Pont	164 1/4	163 1/4	Stone & W	7 1/4	7 3/8
E P Lead	10 1/2	10 1/4	Studebaker	7 1/2	7 1/4
Eaton Mfg	34 1/4	34 1/4	Swift Int	17 1/4	17 3/8
Elec A Lite	33 7/8	34	Technicor	9	9
Elec B & S	3 1/2	3 1/2	Tex Cpn	40 1/4	39 1/2
" $5 pfd	56 1/2	*56 1/2	Tex Gulf	35 1/2	35 7/8
" $6 pfd	66	64 1/2	Timken	33 1/2	34 1/4
Elec P & L	32 1/4	32 1/4	Transamer	4 5/8	4 1/2
Flintkote	14 1/2	15	Tw Fox	5 1/2	6
Gen A Tr	55	55 1/4	Un B & P	12 1/2	12 1/4
Gen Elec	32 1/2	32 1/2	Un Carbide	69	69 1/2
Gen Motor	48 1/2	48 1/2	Un Pac	75 1/2	76 1/2
Gen Rly	16 1/2	14 7/8	Un Air	41 1/2	42 1/2
Gen T & R	11 1/4	11 1/8	Un A Line	16 1/4	16 1/2
Glidden	13 1/2	13 1/4	Un Corp	1 1/8	1 1/8
Goodrich	13 1/2	13 1/4	" $3 pfd	27 1/2	28
" $5 pfd	63	61 1/4	Un Gas	0 3/8	*0 3/8
Goodyear	18 1/2	19 1/4	Un Imp	9 1/8	10
Gt W Sug	19 1/4	19 1/2	U S Ind	24	23 3/8
Gt N I Ore	14 1/4	15	U S Rub	22 1/2	22 1/2
Gt N Rly	26 1/2	27	" 6% pfd	85 1/4	84 1/4
Grey Cpn	11 1/2	11 1/4	U S Smelt	64	64
Her Pow	70	69 1/2	U S Steel	69 1/2	70
Homestake	50 1/4	51 1/2	Vanadium	33 1/2	34 1/2
Int Nickk	23 3/8	23 1/2	Vultee	7 1/4	8 1/2
Int Paper	15 1/4	15 1/4	Walworth	5 1/4	5 1/2
Int T & T	2 1/4	*2	War Br Pic	3	2 1/2
Kennecott	36 1/2	37 1/2	West Elec	102 1/2	104 1/2
Lak F & M	3 1/2	4	Woodward	31 1/2	32 1/2
Libbey O F	42 1/4	43 1/2			

BONDS

Amer. & For. Power	53 1/4	52 1/4
Balt. & Ohio "A"	36 1/4	36 3/4
Brazil (U.S. of) 8 1/4 1941	17 3/8	17 3/4
" " " 6 1/2% 1957	15	15 1/2
Cities Serv. Pwr. & Lt.	94 1/2	94 1/2
Erie 5s 1967	18 1/2	18 1/2
Int. Tel. & Tel.	32	31 7/8
New England Gas & Elec.	63 3/4	64
Sthrn. Pacific Co.	39 5/8	40 1/4
Stand. Gas & Elec.	69 5/8	69 7/8

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Central Reserve Bank Opening Soon

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Following the inauguration of the Central Reserve Bank by the Nanking régime on January 6, the new institution will soon circulate its banknotes of $10, $5 and $1 denominations but its Shanghai branch will not begin to function until after January 15, it was learned yesterday.

The head of the Shanghai branch of the bank which will be housed in the former Central Bank of China Building on the Bund near Kiukiang Road has not yet been appointed and it is said that Mr. Chou Fuhai, Finance Minister, will not head the Shanghai branch.

Ever since Nanking took over the old bank building here some weeks ago renovation and repairs have been going on under the supervision of the political police. Although the work will be completed soon, furnishing and equipment will take some time and therefore the Shanghai office will not be inaugurated until later.

It is said that the $10, $5 and $1 notes, already off the press, are coloured blue, red and green respectively. They will bear the portrait of Dr. Sung Yat-sen on one side and on the other side a picture of the Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum.

The delayed inauguration of the Shanghai branch may hinder the circulation of the new notes here but many reports have been published by Chinese newspapers in sympathy with Chungking stating that these notes will not be accepted in Shanghai either by foreign or Chinese banks. An order issued by the Ministry of Finance at Chungking has also been published warning people against using or transporting the new notes and promising severe punishment according to military law for offenders.

New Currency Law In Manchoukuo

Mukden, Dec. 28.

Revision of the note-issuing system of the Central Bank of Manchou through rational revision of the Currency Law is to be carried out by the Government.

This step is being taken to cope with the marked increase in currency issue resulting from the rapid expansion of domestic economy in recent times. Concrete plans in this connection are being drafted by the Central Bank of Manchou and are expected to be completed in the near future.

Commenting on the projected revision of the note-issuing system, the Vice-Governor of the Central Bank stated: "The Bank has for some time been contemplating steps to revise the present note-issuing system. As the need of effecting a revision has come to be keenly felt, the Central Bank is at present drafting plans, taking into consideration the views of the Government. These plans are expected to be completed in the near future.

"As it will become increasingly difficult for the Central Bank to maintain a legal specie reserve of more than 30 per cent. owing to the continued increase in the issue of notes, which is unavoidable because of the rapid economic development of the country, the Bank authorities are faced with a situation which demands most careful study.

Maximum Issue a Question

"Although it is difficult to say which system is most rational, abolition of the ratio between the specie reserve and securities by limiting the maximum issue or the average issue (as planned in Japan) is being considered. It is, however, very difficult to determine on what basis and to what extent the maximum issue should be decided upon. Careful consideration also must be paid to the effects the abolition of the specie reserve will have on public sentiment."

The Vice-Governor of the Bank added that as the question also had a bearing on Japan it, was necessary to maintain contact and hold discussions with the Japanese Government regarding the advisability and time of revising the present system. In this connection Mr. Takebe, Director of the General Affairs Board, is at present visiting Tokyo and is expected to hear the views of the Japanese authorities.

According to the Currency Law, promulgated and enforced on June 11, 1932, the Central Bank is required to hold as reserve a sum, equivalent to thirty per cent. or more of the total amount of notes issued, in gold and silver and silver bullion, reliable foreign currencies and deposits with foreign banks in gold and silver accounts. The Bank's reserve for the balances after deducting the aforementioned reserve from the total note issue must be held in bonds, notes issued or certified by the Government, or gilt-edged securities or commercial papers.—Reuter.

New Control Bank Rouses Fears

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

With the impending inauguration of the Central Reserve Bank by the new Nanking régime, the Japanese will monopolize trade in Central China as effectively as they do in North China, states a report published by the leading Chinese dailies. The centre of British and American trade interests in Shanghai will be endangered.

What the Japanese have done in North China in excluding British and Americans from the market will be repeated in Central China and new Nanking's institution will issue notes just as the "Federal Reserve Bank" in the north, which has been used for controlling foreign exchange and trade.

Quoting Chinese business circles, the report explains the "smoke screen" used by the Japanese in North China which has been leading the public to believe that third party goods imported by Tientsin have not been reduced in quantity. In fact, it is asserted, importation of foreign goods in the northern port has been greatly diminished. It is stated that a trick used by the Japanese in the Tientsin Customs Office may have misled the public.

Currency Said Manipulated

The report states that imported goods in Tientsin are priced in Chinese currency but while converting the original price in gold into Chinese currency the unofficial or secret foreign exchange market rates are used. The price in Chinese currency is then converted into the Customs Gold Unit. The procedure, it is said, is different from the one used by the Shanghai Customs.

Recently, it is pointed out, British and American trade in north China has suffered a serious blow in view of the new foreign trade regulations enforced through the Federal Reserve Bank. In Central China, strict monopoly is taking shape since the refusal to reopen the Yangtze, and control of trade along the river and the impending inauguration of the new bank will make Central China the second North China so far as foreign trade is concerned, it is asserted.

Japan's Foreign Trade Increasing

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

A summary of Japan's trade for eleven months ending with November this year, was issued by the Ministry of Finance today.

According to the review, Japan's total exports during the period mentioned, including domestic and foreign, totalled Y3,617,000,000 as against a total import amounting to Y.3,328,000,000 leaving a favourable trade balance of Y.289,000,000.

Comparing these figures with those of the corresponding period last year, those for the present period exceed by Y.158,000,000 in export and Y.533,000,000 in import.

The trade review explained that a comparatively large increase was noticable in Japan's exportation toward Manchoukuo, Kwantung Territory and China, in addition to a slight increase in export to other foreign countries.

Japan's export to European countries and Africa has been affected by the European War, the resume stated, while that to the North and Central America remained about the same as last year. A noteworthy increase of exports to the South Seas however, was recorded thus bringing the total of Japan's exports to compare favourably in general with last year.

Increase in Exports

Referring to commodities exported, the statement said that an increase was recorded in cotton fabrics and rayon and that raw silk was pegged at the same mark. A slight decrease in canned provisions was recorded however.

Commenting on Japan's import, the announcement declared that the increase of imports was mainly due to the increase in prices of raw cotton and wool and not due to the increase of their quantity brought into Japan. With the exception of beans, other main items of imports also saw similar increases in price.

In its summary, the official review noted with satisfaction that Japan's trade aboard was on the trend of further increases, especially with Manchoukuo, Kwangtung Territory and China and was making favourable progress with specified countries, despite the great handicap caused by the War.—Domei.

Mining Progress In Manchoukuo

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

The Tungpientao district in Manchoukuo has assumed considerable importance as a supplier of various minerals since the American embargo on the export of scrap iron to Japan. The full operation of the existing equipment of the Showa Steel Works will present a major problem to the Manchuria Industrial Development Corporation.

Particular emphasis will be laid in 1941 upon the development of coal and iron resources to increase the coal output at the collieries of the Manchuria Coal Mining Company, the South Manchuria Railway and other companies. Owing to the difficulty of increasing the shipments of cooking coal from the Haokang, Mishan and North China mines arising from the shortage of freight cars, the full operation of the Showa Steel Works will depend upon the production of Tungpientao coal. Increased production of pig iron at the Showa Works and the Penhsihu Colliery and Iron Works to meet the export to Japan is expected in the near future with greater output of luppe at Showa and special raw material sponge iron in the Tungpientao and Kyowa Tetsuzan.

Since the near for an early establishment of a heavy machine industry is keenly felt in Manchoukuo owing to the present international situation, plans are being formed for the establishment of the Manchuria Heavy Machine Manufacturing Company and the Manchuria Machine Company.

The proposed ban of copper to Japan is expected to accelerate the development of copper resources in Manchoukuo and stimulate the production of aluminium to be used as a substitute for copper. This will necessitate the full operation of the Fushun plant of the Manchuria Light Metal Manufacturing Company. The demand also is growing for more ferro-alloy and raw material for the manufacture of special steel. The Manchuria Mining Company and the Manchuria Lead Mining Company are devoting special attention to the mining of vanadium and molybdenum.

Ten-year Plan

The Manchuria Mining Development Company will strive to live up to the ten-year plan for the survey of resources of Manchoukuo which was started last year and the three-year plan for the survey of the northern frontier districts which began this year.

In view of the urgent demand for coal and copper the company will exert every effort to acquire and lease all rights for the mining of these minerals in Manchoukuo. They will continue to lease mining rights for other important minerals which offer prospects of immediate exploitation.

The Manchuria Mining Development Company is directing its attention to financing coal and copper mining and refining enterprises as well as assisting in the development of medium and small mining enterprises. As the plan for the expansion of the refining plant in Mukden is expected to be completed soon, the company is paying particular attention to the installing of additional equipment to enable the plant to function at full blast.

Owing to the difficulty experienced in importing manganese from India the company has begun to develop the manganese deposits at Wafangtzu, Chinchou province. A considerable quantity of the ore is already being mined and Japanese and Manchoukuo iron manufacturers are looking forward to be adequately supplied with manganese when the company's plan is in full swing.

November Rubber Outputs

	lb.
Bute Plantation (1913) Ltd.	65,311
Dominion Rubber Co., Ltd.	58,010
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921) Ltd.	68,108
Shanghai Kedah Plantations, Ltd.	74,590
Shanghai Pahang Rubber Estate Ltd.	44,334
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate Ltd.	47,000
Tanah Merah Estates (1916) Ltd.	102,000
The Ayer Tawah Rubber Plantation Co., Ltd.	56,000
The Sungala Rubber Estate Ltd.	23,500

AN air service from Palau to Jaluit in the South Seas, consisting of two round-trips a month, will be inaugurated on January 8 by the Dai Nippon Airways Company. With the addition of this new route of 5,300 kilometers to the Yokohama-Saipan-Palau line, the total distance of Japanese airlines in the South Seas will be 9,480 kilometres.

China's Nov. Foreign Trade

Net Imports Amount to G. U. 53,928,007 ; Total For the Year of G. U. 684,442,054

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

ACCORDING to the monthly returns issued by the Chinese Maritime Customs covering the foreign trade of this country, net imports during November, 1940, totalled G. U. 53,928,007 (G. U. = 40¼ pence sterling for November) ; net exports were $157,290,163. January-November figures were G. U. 684,442,054 and $1,780,082,546, as against G. U. 506,259,531 and $905,118,659 respectively in 1939.

Net Imports (in thousands)
Including Bond Withdrawals

	Nov. 1940 G.U.	Jan. 1939 G.U.	Nov. 1940 G.U.
Cotton P.G. Grey ..	175	1,062	556
Piece white or dyed .	3,593	2,872	10 860
Piece printed ..	138	1,462	906
Piece miscellaneous .	492	513	14,851
Cotton raw, yarn ..	6 228	67 206	103 459
Cotton manu, sundry	174	1,225	2 127
Flax, ramie, hemp ..	784	7,997	14,725
Wool and manu. ..	848	10,151	12,145
Silk	962	10 002	14 541
Metal and ores ..	2 517	27 512	44,797
Machinery and tools.	1,822	22,637	25 528
Vehicles and vessels .	1,417	17,326	14,851
Metal manu.	1,091	12,606	14,315
Fishery products ..	668	6 041	10 921
Canned goods ..	398	6,322	11 917
Cereals and flour ..	14,869	85,431	128,591
Fruits, and seeds ..	690	10,144	12 070
Medicinal goods ..	776	4,965	7,371
Sugar	1,291	20,993	21,009
Wines, beer	135	2,315	2,739
Tobacco	343	14,673	17,467
Pharmaceuticals ..	1,751	29,606	30,268
Dyes, varnishes ..	1,574	17,280	17,874
Candles, resins, etc. .	3,580	41,485	49,777
Books, maps, paper .	1,539	23,054	25 816
Hides, leather, etc..	300	2,781	4,713
Timber	999	13,067	10,171
Bamboo	403	4,430	6,937
Coal, fuel, tar ..	1,033	10,377	17,825
Chinaware, etc. ..	176	2,008	2,702
Stone, earth.. ..	167	2,175	2,579
Sundry	3,000	27,126	32,195
Grand Total	53,928	506,295	684 442

Net Exports (in thousands)

	Nov. 1940 G.S.$	Jan. 1939 G.S.$	Nov. 1940 G.S.$
Animal products ..	28,723	175 732	287 649
Hides, leather ..	3 410	28 981	63 054
Fish products ..	359	3 153	4 237
Beans and peas ..	1,017	7 094	13 334
Cereals	1,346	24,215	24 314
Dyestuffs, vegetable4	657	2 526	4 047
Fruits, preserves ..	2,490	11,647	13 486
Medicinals	3,484	18 442	29 985
Oils, tallow and wax	4 050	50 222	91 936
Seeds	1 904	19,083	39 580
Spirituous beverages	990	1,580	5 654
Sugar	122	419	1,111
Tea	3 005	17,648	98,079
Tobacco	789	9 324	6,285
Vegetables	1,357	10 907	17,197
Vegetable products..	1,571	7,795	15,948
Bamboo	143	1,601	1,744
Fuel	7,181	28,615	63 608
Rattan	1	79	109
Timber	918	4 377	8 751
Paper	1,520	7,818	16 716
Textile fibres ..	30,727	150 812	311 268
Yarn, thread ..	14 598	73,598	165 537
Piece goods	8 005	50 102	107,848
Other textiles ..	8 334	27,169	72 791
Ores, metals.. ..	9 892	95 415	124,191
Glass, glassware ..	2 129	3 923	16 708
Stone, earth.. ..	2,027	9,697	17,514
Chemicals	3 982	13,668	37 884
Printed matter ..	733	2 972	4 948
Sundry	11,811	52 483	108,657
Grand Total	157,290	905,118	1,780,802

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES:
Value of Gold and Silver: by Countries

	Gold			Silver		
	November 1940	January-November 1939	January-November 1940	November 1940	January-November 1939	January-November 1940
Imported from	G.U.	G.U.	G.U.	$	$	$
Great Britain	—	336	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	824	—
Total Imports	—	336	—	— *	824	— †
Exported to						
Burma	—	406,793	—	—	—	15,205,000
French Indo-China	—	—	—	—	1,044,000	—
Hongkong	—	986,071	10,131,160	—	898,622	89,640
Kwangchowwan leased Territory	—	—	—	—	2,943	—
Total Exports	—	1,392,864	10,131,160‡	—	1,945,565	15,294,640§

* Bank-notes, face value Chinese $1,650,000, were imported during the month.
† Nickel and copper subsidiary coins, value $7,601, and bank-notes, face value Chinese $161,050,756 and Hongkong $147,295, were imported during the month.
‡ Bank-notes, face value U.S. $725,000, were exported during the month.
§ Not including bank-notes, face value Chinese $3,038,945, Piastres 993,300, Hongkong $2,150,750, Yen 1,500,000, English £10,850 and U.S. $800,000.

Value of Merchandise

	November 1940		January-November 1939		January-November 1940	
	G.U.	$	G.U.	$	G.U.	$
Gross Imports	54,511,703	—	509,621,902	—	689,764,212	—
Less Re-exports Abroad	586,696	—	3,362,371	—	5,322,158	—
Net Imports	53,928,007	115,983,115	506,259,531	1,248,416,359	684,442,054	1,852,784,639
Gross Exports	—	157,804,349	—	907,652,551	—	1,785,623,741
Less Re-imports from Abroad	—	514,186	—	2,533,892	—	5,541,195
Net Exports	—	157,290,163	—	905,118,659	—	1,780,082,546
Total Net Imports and Exports	—	303,273 278	—	2,150,535 018	—	3 632 867,185

Value of Gold and Silver

	November 1940		January-November 1939		January-November 1940	
	G.U.	$	G.U.	$	G.U.	$
Gold Coins imported	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gold Bullion "	—	—	336	—	—	—
Silver Coins "	—	—	—	—	—	—
Silver Bullion "	—	—	—	824	—	—
Total Imports	—	— *	336	824	—	— *
Gold Coins exported	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gold Bullion "	—	—	1,392,864	—	10,131,160	—
Silver Coins "	—	—	—	1,681 054	—	13,969,640
Silver Bullion "	—	—	—	264,511	—	1,325,000
Total Exports	—	—	1,392,864	1,945,565	10,131,160	15,294,640*
Total Imports and Exports	—	—	1,393,200	1,946,389	10,131,160	15,294,640

*Not including nickel and copper subsidiary coins and bank-notes.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation

INCORPORATED IN THE COLONY OF HONGKONG.
THE LIABILITY OF MEMBERS IS LIMITED TO THE EXTENT AND IN MANNER PRESCRIBED BY ORDINANCE NO. 6 OF 1929 OF THE COLONY.

Authorised Capital .. .. HK$50,000,000
Issued and Fully Paid-up . .. . HK$20,000,000
Reserve Funds { Sterling £6,500,000
Reserve Funds { Hongkong Currency .. .. .. HK$10,000,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors .. .. HK$20,000,000

Board of Directors:
Hon. Mr. J. J. Paterson, *Chairman*; C. C. Robert, Esq. *Deputy Chairman*; J. K. Boosfield, Esq., L. J. Davies, Esq., A. H. Compton, Esq., Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell, G. Miskin, Esq., K. S. Morrison, Esq., Hon. Mr. T. E. Pearce, Hon. Mr. A. L. Shields.
Chief Manager: Sir Vandeleur M. Grayburn.

Head Office: HONGKONG

Branches in London, New York, San Francisco and the Principal Cities of the Far East

Every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

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A. S. Henchman, *Manager.*

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Shanghai Stock Exchange Official Weekly Share Report with Opening Quotations, Dec. 27, 1940

REPORT No. 52/1940 for week ending December 27 (Friday), compiled by the Shanghai Stock Exchange

Comparative Opening Cash Prices — Quotations in Chinese Dollars unless otherwise stated • H'kong $ — This Friday Morning December 27, 1940: Buyers	Sellers	Last Sales	Nom.	Last Friday Morning December 20, 1940: Buyers	Sellers	Last Sales	Nom.	Business Recorded During Week Closing Thursday: Highest	Lowest	STOCKS	Authorised Capital (No. of Shares)	Issued Capital (No. of Shares)	Paid up Value (or Face Value)	Fin. Year ends	Last Dividends, etc.	Paid or due	Business Done Year 1939: Highest	Lowest	Business Done Year 1940: Highest	Lowest	Total No. of Shares Done for: Last Week	This Week	Total Amount of Sales Reported: 1939	21-12-40
										Banks, Finance Companies														
....	....	18.30	....	....	....	18.00	....	18.30	18.30	Central Properties, Ltd.	5,000,000	180,000	$10	Dec.	Special Int. $2.00 a/c 1940	9-5-40	18 Jan	14 Feb	25½ May	12 May	100	100	53,000	134,250
....	....	....	12	....	....	....	12	....	....	China Bond & Shares Co., Fed. Inc., U.S.A.	200,000	120,000	$10	Dec.	Fin. Div. 6% (Mkg 10% a/c 1939)	12-3-40	10 Jan	10 Jan	12 Mar	12 Mar	....	....	21,000	500
1.00	....	1.30	....	1.00	....	1.12	....	1.30	1.08	China Finance Corp. Fed. Inc., U.S.A.	400,000	400,000	T5	Dec.	Spec. Tax Div. $0.05½ on record 31/12/1939	11-3-40	0.50 Dec	0.20 July	3.60 Jan	65 May	4,000	7,500	26,000	1,483,410
....	....	1,300	....	....	....	1,300	....	1,370.00	1,370.00	Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp.	400,000	160,000	H $125	Dec.	Int. Div. £2.10-0 a/c 1940 Less I/T	10-8-40	1,445 Mar	1,310 Oct	1,520 Apr	975 June	....	1	788	555
26.00	....	26.00	....	24½	25½	24½	....	28.00	25½	Inter. Invest. Trust Co. of China, Ltd.	2,000,000	350,000	T10	Mar.	2nd Int. $1.00 (Mkg. $1.75 a/c 1940-1)	14-12-40	11.10 Dec	2.37½ Feb	39½ May	8.60 May	57,200	59,250	1,828,855	5,614,498
31½	....	31½	....	....	31.00	30½	....	33.00	31.00	Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ltd.	250,000	250,000	T5	Dec.	2nd Int. $1.00 (Mkg. $2.00 a/c 1940)	8-11-40	15 Dec	5 Sept	41½ May	10.40 May	19,250	18,200	1,301,258	2,995,302
....	....	....	20	....	....	....	20	....	....	Union Mobiliere	100,000	100,000	$20	Dec.	4½ % a/c 1939	8-5-40	....	....	....	....	....	189,350	....	3,676,513
15.90	16.00	15.80	....	11½	14.60	14.40	....	16.50	14.50	Yangtsze Finance Co., Ltd.	2,000,000	517,500	T10	Mar.	2nd Int. $0.50 (Mkg. $1.00 a/c 1940-1)	14-12-40	10.10 Dec	4.72½ Sept	24½ Apr	7.05 June	123,900	103,350	928,365	4,788,758
6.00	6.10	5.90	....	5.25	5.30	5.30	....	6.20	5.30	Shanghai Securities, Ltd.	1,000,000	875,000	$5	Dec.	Div. $0.20 a/c 1939	29-3-40	....	....	8.50 May	3.00 May	109,000	....	....	....
										Insurances														
....	....	24	....	....	....	24	....	....	....	American-Asiatic Underwriters (ord.)	75,000	75,000	T10	Dec.	Div. $1.40, a/c 1939	3-6-40	3.25 Nov	3 Jan	26 Sept	5 Jan	....	....	7,400	16,031
....	....	....	200	....	....	....	200	....	....	Asia Life Insurance Co.	100,000	40,000	*U.S. $5	Dec.	Div. 10% = G$0.50, 1938	11-9-39	70 Jan	70 Jan	....	....	....	....	200	....
....	....	....	90	....	....	....	90	....	....	Assurance Franco-Asiatique	70,000	70,000	F100	Dec.	Div. 5%, 1938	10-5-39	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
18.60	19.20	18.80	....	18.20	18.80	18.30	....	18.80	18.30	International Assurance Co., Ltd.	933,333	280,000	10/-	Dec.	Div. $0.30, 1933 (Nil 1939)	18-5-34	11.20 Oct	7.50 Apr	19.70 May	8.90 Jan	3,293	2,600	85,873	1,021,218
....	....	394½	....	....	....	394½	....	....	....	Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.	200,000	135,000	£6	Dec.	Int. 12/6 a/c 1940	15-11-40	480 Mar	365 Oct	520 Apr	345 July	....	....	1,020	1,279
										Lands														
....	....	....	178	....	....	....	178	....	....	Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ltd.	25,000	19,335	T100	Feb.	Int. $2.00 a/c 1940-41	22-10-40	200 Dec	120 Sept	200 Jan	200 Jan	....	....	366	100
....	....	1.80	....	....	....	1.80	....	....	....	Cathay Land Co., Ltd.	500,000	480,374	T10	Dec.	Final 2% = $0.28 (Mkg. 6% 1933) (Nil 1939)	5-5-34	2 Dec	1 May	5.10 Feb	1.70 Nov	....	....	72,500	38,150
....	8½	8.20	....	....	....	7.85	....	8.50	7.90	China Realty Co. Fed. Inc., U.S.A.	1,250,000	1,236,327	$10	Dec.	....	....	1 Jan	0.23 Aug	10.90 Jan	6.30 Oct	12,674	18,513	461,581	3,449,831
....	....	....	2.39	....	....	....	2.39	....	....	Fonciere et Immobiliere de Chine	20,000	20,000	T100	Dec.	2nd Int. $15.00 (Mkg. $30.00 a/c 1940)	28-11-40	180 Mar	180 Mar	275 Feb	275 Feb	....	....	48	605
....	....	11	....	....	....	11.00	....	11.00	11.00	Metropolitan Land Co., Ltd. "A"	500,000 (A and B)	39,800	T10	Sept	Fin. $1.00 (Mkg. $1.40 a/c 1939-40)	10-12-40	8 Dec (A and B)	4.20 Feb (A and B)	15.70 Feb	9 Jan	810 (A and B)	160	12,380	119,666
....	....	11	....	....	....	11.00	....	....	....	do. "B"		155,018	T10	Sept	Fin. $1.00 (Mkg. $1.40 a/c 1939-40)	10-12-40	....	....						
....	....	10	....	....	....	10.00	....	....	....	San Sing Properties, Ltd.	2,000,000	805,007	T10	Mar.	Int. Div. $0.60 a/c 1939 (Final Nil) (Nil 1939-40)	23-12-38	....	....	10.00 Nov	7.50 Oct	....	....	....	45,500
12.20	12.30	12.10	....	11.70	11.90	11.60	....	12.70	11.60	Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.	2,386,800	2,386,800	($7) T5	Dec.	Fin. 1% = $0.28 (Mkg. Tls. 0.50 1931) (Nil 1939)	25-4-35	13 Dec	7.50 Aug	20½ Feb	8.80 May	33,950	106,100	1,248,107	3,920,818
....	....	....	170	....	....	....	1.70	....	....	Tientsin Land Investment Co., Ltd.	120,000	61,281	$50	Dec.	Int. 10% a/c 1940	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
										Docks, Wharves and Transport														
36½	36½	35½	....	33½	31.00	33½	....	38½	31.00	Shanghai Dockyards, Ltd.	2,000,000	1,125,000	$10	Sept	Fin. $2.00 (Mkg. $3.00 a/c 1939-40)	16-12-40	....	....	75 May	19.10 June	190,320	150,400	....	7,341,212
....	....	442½	....	415.00	....	415.00	....	442½	410.00	Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co., Ltd.	80,000	60,000	T100	Dec.	Int. $17.00 a/c 1940	29-8-40	270 Dec	170 Jan	560 May	267 Jan	224	100	11,014	8,897
95	95½	95	....	91.00	92.00	90.00	....	99.00	91.00	Wheelock & Co., Ltd.	1,000,000	478,720	T10	Mar.	Int. $5 a/c 1940-41	5-12-40	76.50 Dec	28 Sept	272 Apr	38 July	70,850	51,228	721,907	2,899,310
										Utilities														
19.50	20.00	20.00	....	19.10	19.40	19.10	....	20.50	18.90	China General Omnibus Co., Ltd.	500,000	200,000	T10	Dec.	Fin. Div. $0.70 (Mkg. $1.26 a/c 1938) (Nil 1939)	20-4-39	32.25 June	18.50 Aug	37 May	15 June	18,800	25,530	119,712	828,424
....	....	17.90	....	....	....	17.10	....	18.20	17.10	Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd. "Old"	700,000	700,000	$10	Dec.	Div. $0.80 1939	30-4-40	12.40 Dec	8 Feb	37 May	12.30 Jan	3,711	8,150	25,667	624,079
....	....	43½	....	....	43½	43½	....	45½	42½	Shanghai Telephone Company Fed. Inc. U.S.A.	2,000,000	1,151,420	$10	Dec.	Div. $0.75 a/c 1940	Pending	23.75 Dec	10.60 July	55 May	23 Jan	56,595	28,110	410,280	1,624,082
....	....	11.00	....	....	....	41.00	....	51½	19½	S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ltd. "Reg."	700,000 (Reg. and Bear)	670,000	£1	Dec.	Div. 5% a/c 1939 Coupon 57	30-4-40	40.50 July	36 Sept	54 Apr	41½ Oct	290	1,300	8,274	13,739
....	....	50.00	....	....	48.00	16½	....	52½	18.90	do. "Bear"							44.75 June	36 Sept	69½ May	40 June	1,960	2,600	275,900	321,830
....	....	870.00	....	....	....	870.00	....	....	....	S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd. "A"	40,236	40,236	£20	Dec.	Int. 4/- a/c 1940	27-9-40	830 Oct	620 Jan	1,250 May	797 Aug	50	....	3,600	1,150
....	....	36.00	....	....	....	36.00	....	....	....	do. "B"	359,280 (B and C)	108,505	£1	Dec.	Int. 2/4 a/c 1940	27-9-40	33.50 Aug	26 Apr	16 Feb	32¼ Jan	500	....	9,705	1,980
....	....	35.00	....	....	....	35.00	....	....	....	do. "C"		250,000	£1	Dec.	Int. 2/4 a/c 1940	27-9-40	33.50 Oct	26.25 Mar	50 Mar	32½ Jan	500	....	7,771	8,815
....	....	16.00	....	....	....	16.00	....	....	....	Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd. "New"	....	....	....	Dec.	....	....	....	....	22 Sept	15.70 Oct	50	....	....	10,505
										Miscellaneous														
23	....	....	....	....	....	....	24.00	....	....	Auto Palace Co., Ltd.	150,000	118,500	$8	Dec.	2nd Int. $2.00 (Mkg. $4.00 a/c 1940)	15-11-40	15 Dec	8.50 May	23½ Feb	16 Jan	....	....	24,920	11,155
....	....	16	....	....	....	16.00	....	....	....	Bakerite Co., Fed. Inc., U.S.A. "B"	50,000	49,703	$10	Dec.	Tax. Div. $1.50 on record 31/12/39	6-3-40	17.20 Dec	11 Aug	24 May	15.50 Oct	....	....	15,607	5,245
....	....	29	....	....	....	30.00	....	....	....	Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co., Ltd. (ord.)	200,000	140,000	T10	Dec.	Int. $2.50 a/c 1940	12-11-40	15 Dec	11 Mar	38 Apr	18 Jan	....	....	7,715	13,928
50½	51	50½	....	46½	....	46½	....	51½	47½	China Import & Export Lumber Co., Ltd.	500,000	231,803	T10	Feb.	Fin. $1.00 (Mkg. $6.50 a/c 1939-40)	24-5-40	39.50 Dec	19 June	81 May	30 May	9,200	18,500	22,753	687,534
....	52	50½	....	48½	49.00	48½	....	53.00	49.00	Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ltd. "Bearer"	2,000,000	1,960,000	£1	June	Div. 7½% a/c 1938/39 Free of I/T Coupon 46	15-3-40	48 Dec	22.25 Jan	84 May	35½ Oct	3,900	3,900	175,625	155,516
....	....	....	4	....	....	....	4.00	....	....	Chosen Corporation, Ltd.	750,000	725,000	£1	June	Div. 1/-(Mkg. 1/9d. 1937) Less Tax (Nil 1939)	15-1-35	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	....	....	37	....	....	....	37.00	....	....	Culty Dairy Co., Ltd.	40,000	40,000	T10	Dec.	Div. $1.50 a/c 1939	12-4-40	30 Oct	19 Jan	44 May	35 Aug	....	....	150	5,432
....	....	....	15	....	....	....	15	....	....	Champ Course Francais French	30,000	30,000	$20	Dec.	Div. $1.50 a/c 1934 (Nil 1939)	1-3-35	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	....	....	15	....	....	....	15	....	....	(French Race Course) non-French		....	....	Dec.	Div. $1.50 a/c 1934 (Nil 1939)	1-3-35	80 Mar	80 Mar	15 Sept	15 Sept	....	....	100	30
7.65	7.70	7.70	....	7.20	7.25	7.20	....	7.90	7.25	Ewo Breweries, Ltd.	4,000,000	1,400,000	$5	Dec.	....	....	....	....	8.00 Oct	6.50 Nov	191,125	185,075	....	1,516,590
....	....	....	31	....	....	....	31.00	....	....	Hall & Holtz, Ltd.	28,000	26,312	£20	Feb.	Div. 5% = $1, 1934-35 (1938-39 Nil)	30-5-35	15 Dec	8 Feb	34 Aug	25 Feb	....	....	1,328	1,532
....	....	....	5	....	....	....	5.00	....	....	Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ltd.	1,500,000	1,193,867	H $7.50	Dec.	Div. Hk. $0.50 a/c 1939	17-4-40	5 Apr	5 Apr	....	....	....	....	500	....
....	....	....	11	....	....	....	11.00	....	....	Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.	75,000	45,000	$10	Feb.	Fin. Div. $1.00 (Mkg. $1.50 a/c 1939-40)	10-7-40	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
25	....	....	....	21.00	....	....	....	....	....	Mark L. Moody, Fed. Inc., U.S.A.	100,000	30,000	T10	Dec.	Fin. Div. $1.50 (Mkg. $5.50 a/c 1939)	12-3-40	12 May	12 May	....	....	....	....	200	....
32	32½	32.00	....	45	15½	11½	....	18.00	31½	Metal Industries of China, Ltd.	2,000,000	250,000	$5	Dec.	Int. $2.00 a/c 1940	16-12-40	18.90 Nov	4.50 Sept	55 May	17.10 June	176,750	67,225	1,251,630	3,852,310
....	....	....	4.80	....	....	....	....	....	....	Millington, Ltd.	300,000	110,000	$4	Dec.	Int. 5% = $0.20 a/c 1940	2-12-40	2 Mar	1.40 Oct	8.00 Mar	6.00 Sept	....	....	14,310	2,095
....	....	....	3.09	....	....	....	3.00	....	....	Office Appliance Co., Ltd.	80,000	60,000	T8.50	Dec.	Div. $1.00 a/c 1939	26-6-40	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
25½	26	25½	....	21½	21½	21½	....	26½	21½	S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ltd.	1,200,000	716,699	T2.50	Dec.	2nd Int. $0.60 (Mkg. $1.20 a/c 1940)	Pending	9.50 Nov	4.50 Aug	31 May	8.60 Jan	122,560	97,920	1,748,925	9,798,152
....	....	2.25	....	....	....	2.25	....	....	....	S'hai Waterworks Fittings Co., Ltd.	500,000	301,765	T1	Dec.	Div. 10% 1939	12-6-40	2 Dec	1 Apr	435 Apr	1.90 Jan	1,200	....	38,600	20,478
....	....	6.70	....	....	....	6.70	....	....	....	Union Brewery, Ltd.	500,000	200,000	T10	Dec.	Div. $1.25, a/c 1933 (Nil 1939)	27-5-31	....	....	10.80 Apr	4.25 Mar	....	....	....	32,325
17.30	17.10	17.10	....	....	....	....	....	17.90	16.50	Metal Rights	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	51,100	....	51,100
										Bonds and Preferences														
....	....	....	120	....	....	....	120	....	....	American-Asiatic Underwriters, Cum. Pref. 8%	5,000	5,000	T100	Dec.	4% for ½ year ended 30 June 1940	29-6-40	10 Apr	10 Apr	120 Sept	85 Apr	....	....	2	262
....	....	100	....	....	....	100	....	....	....	do. Cum. Pref. 7%	7,500	7,500	T100	Dec.	3½ = $1.89 for ½ year ended 30-9-40	30-9-40	50 Feb	10 Apr	115 Aug	75 Feb	....	....	290	320
....	....	14	....	....	....	14	....	....	....	Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co., Ltd. 8% cum. pref	100,000	80,000	T10	Dec.	Div. 8% = $1.12 for 1939	30-4-40	14 Mar	13 Nov	15 July	15 July	....	....	2,795	950
....	....	....	3	....	....	....	3.00	....	....	Ch. Finance Corp. Fed. Inc. U.S.A. (Pref.) 8%	600,000	205,125	T5	Dec.	Quarterly Div. Tls. 0.10 = $0.14, 1938	30-12-33	....	....	2.00 Dec	2.00 Dec	....	....	....	150
....	....	160	....	....	....	160	....	....	....	Ewo Cotton Mills, Ltd. 8% cum. pref	10,000	9,000	T100	Dec.	Div. Tls. 8 = $11.19, 1939	2-5-40	155 Mar	140 July	160 May	160 May	....	....	708	221
....	....	136	....	....	136.00	136.00	....	137.00	135½	S'hai Power Co. Tls. 6 cum. Pref. stock	230,000	220,000	T100	Dec.	1st qr. Div. Tls. 1.50 = $2.0979 a/c 1941	Pending	134 June	112 Aug	138½ Sept	120 May	190	758	11,467	38,311
....	....	....	73	....	....	....	73	....	....	Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd., 7% pref	10,000	10,000	T50	Dec.	Int. Tls. 1.75 = 3½% a/c 1940	4-12-40	62.50 Dec	50 Aug	....	....	....	....	590	....
....	....	14.20	....	....	....	14.20	....	....	....	S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd. 7% cum. pref.	100,000	100,000	T10	Dec.	3½ = $0.49 for half year ended 30-6-40	27-9-40	15 May	13.50 June	15 May	13½ Apr	....	....	2,210	2,400
....	....	13½	....	....	....	13½	....	....	....	do. 6½% cum. pref.	100,000	100,000	T10	Dec.	3¼ = $0.45 for half year ended 30-6-40	27-9-40	14 Apr	12 Aug	14.20 Sept	13.50 Oct	....	....	7,075	7,340
										Cottons														
44½	45.00	41½	....	41½	41½	40½	....	47½	41¼	Ewo Cotton Mills, Ltd., Ordinary	2,000,000	1,350,000	T5	Dec.	Int. $1.50 a/c 1940	7-12-40	28 Dec	15.60 Jan	82 May	27 July	133,475	178,100	2,811,561	6,319,950
8.80	8.95	8.85	....	8.80	8.85	8.70	....	9.35	8.75	New China Textile Co., Ltd.	2,000,000	1,140,600	$5	Dec.	....	....	....	....	9.80 Oct	6.10 Oct	163,600	132,150	....	2,501,745
....	....	192	....	185.00	192.00	190.00	....	192.00	192.00	Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ltd.	240,000	240,000	$50	Apr.	Int. $7.50 a/c 1940-41	29-11-40	173 Oct	101 Feb	244 May	154 Oct	200	100	7,675	7,559
6.85	7.00	6.90	....	6.95	7.00	6.85	....	7.20	6.80	Worsted Mill	1,000,000	1,000,000	$5	Dec.	....	....	....	....	7.35 Dec	6.65 Dec	159,240	80,815	....	537,660
....	....	80	....	....	....	80	....	....	....	Tung Yih Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	400,000	255,000	$10	Dec.	Div. $5 & Bonus $5 a/c 1939	3-4-40	43 July	40 July	80 Aug	80 Aug	....	....	200	100
....	70	67½	....	....	70	67½	....	....	....	Zoong Sing Cotton Mills, Ltd.	200,000	150,000	$10	June	Int. $15.00 a/c 1940	25-11-40	46 Nov	42 Mar	75 Aug	17 Jan	100	....	1,000	5,150
....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	Ewo Rights	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	15,682	....	....	....
										Plantations														
....	57	....	56½	....	56½	....	56½	....	....	Alma Estates, Ltd.	70,000	70,000	(Tls. 9) £1	Sept.	Fin. $5.00 (Mkg. $8.00 a/c 1939-40)	27-12-40	39.75 Dec	18 Feb	61 May	35 June	....	....	20,300	24,094
....	....	23½	....	22	....	22	....	25¼	24¼	Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ltd.	400,000	350,000	10s	Dec.	Int. Div. $1.50 a/c 1940	6-8-40	19.60 Dec	8.60 Mar	31 Feb	8.80 July	20,450	....	178,529	648,820
47	48	47	....	45	45½	44½	....	49.00	15.00	Anglo-Java Estates, Ltd.	500,000	496,000	10s	Dec.	Int. Div. $3.00 a/c 1940	23-7-40	41 Dec	13.80 Feb	61 May	18.20 June	42,500	23,880	418,837	1,555,001
....	....	6.60	....	....	....	6.60	....	....	....	Ayer Tawah Rub. Plantation Co., Ltd.	500,000	335,499	T1	Sept.	Fin. $0.20 (Mkg. $0.40 a/c 1939-40)	27-12-40	6.75 Dec	3.65 June	11.70 Feb	4.25 Aug	1,000	43,763	27,764	43,461
....	1.68	1.68	....	1.11	....	1.12	....	1.70	1.50	Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ltd.	960,000	960,000	T0.10	Dec.	Int. $0.10 a/c 1940	31-10-40	1.86 Dec	0.87 Nov	2.90 Feb	81 May	9,000	....	665,775	1,225,616
....	....	7.75	....	7.00	....	7.00	....	8.00	7.75	Bute Plantations (1913), Ltd.	500,000	353,698	T1	Dec.	2nd Int. $0.30 (Mkg. $0.60 a/c 1940)	4-12-40	9.50 Dec	3.10 Jan	15 Feb	6.00 May	3,000	28,000	177,195	180,480
2.50	....	2.85	....	....	....	2.55	....	3.00	2.52½	Chemor United Rubber Co., Ltd.	1,200,000	956,804	T0.10	Dec.	Int. $0.10 a/c 1940	14-11-40	2.90 Dec	1.13 May	5.20 Feb	1.55 May	2,000	1,000	746,916	1,317,417
0.88	....	0.88	....	....	....	0.82	....	0.93	0.83	Cheng Rubber Estates, Ltd.	1,095,850	1,051,438	T0.10	June	Div. $0.05 a/c 1939-40	1-10-40	0.92 Dec	0.35 Sept	1.74 Jan	0.50 May	47,000	21,100	1,103,938	2,801,965
....	....	7.80	....	7.05	7.30	7.10	....	8.10	7.10	Consolidated Rub. Estates (1914), Ltd.	500,000	484,837	2/-	Dec.	2nd Int. $0.35 (Mkg. $0.70 a/c 1940)	4-12-40	8.40 Dec	4.10 May	14.50 Feb	4.95 May	2,500	79,200	282,352	497,085
....	....	12	....	....	....	10½	....	12.00	10.90	Dominion Rubber Co., Ltd.	350,000	200,000	T1	Dec.	2nd Int. $0.50 (Mkg. $1.00 a/c 1940)	4-12-40	11.60 Dec	5.90 Apr	19.00 Feb	8.95 July	500	18,100	127,110	163,181
....	....	....	62	....	....	....	62	....	....	Gula-Kalumpong Rub. Ests., Ltd.	750,000	665,000	£1	Dec.	Div. 5% 1938 Less I/T (Coupon 35)	6-4-39	....	....	....	....	....	6,167	....	430,217
....	....	1.50	....	4.00	....	4.00	....	1.75	1.10	Java-Cons. Rub. & Coffee Ests., Ltd.	850,000	750,000	2/-	Dec.	Int. $0.25 a/c 1940	30-7-40	5.55 Dec	2.07½ Apr	7.70 Feb	2.15 June	16,000	8,000	1,025,155	3,300
....	....	....	18	....	....	....	18	....	....	Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ltd.	15,000	14,800	T10	Dec.	Final Div. $0.50 (Mkg. $1.50 a/c 1937) (Nil 1939)	21-3-38	24.50 Dec	16.90 Nov	40 May	18.00 July	....	6,150	3,383	569,945
....	....	5.70	....	5.10	5.20	5.10	....	5.70	5.20	Kota Bahroe Rub. Ests. (1921), Ltd.	500,000	461,804	T0.75	June	Fin. $0.55 (Mkg. $1.00 a/c 1939-40)	26-11-40	5.90 Dec	2.50 Apr	10.10 Feb	4.00 May	6,000	85,000	529,960	1,282,080
3.10	3.20	3.20	....	3.00	3.10	3.02½	....	3.50	3.10	Kroewoek Java Plantations, Ltd.	2,200,000	2,200,000	T0.10	Dec.	Int. Div. $0.25 a/c 1940	26-7-40	3.37½ Dec	1.13 Jan	4.70 Feb	1.30 June	37,040	37,700	1,971,250	1,828,838
										[illegible]	300,000	250,000	Gs.10	Oct.	Int. Guilders 0.14 Fin. Guilders 0.18 a/c 1939	14-5-40	28.75 Dec	8 Feb	47½ May	12.50 July	29,250	10,500	318,387	755,251

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COMPANY MEETINGS

Alma Estates Ltd.

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

The annual general meeting of the Alma Estates Ltd. was held yesterday morning in the offices of the Secretaries and General Managers, J. A. Wattie & Co., with Mr. A. J. Welch in the chair, supported by Messrs. L. E. Canning and H. Kadoorie, directors, and D. E. Levy, representing the Secretaries. There were 19,102 shares represented. After the notice convening the meeting had been read, the chairman said:—

The Report and Accounts having been in your hands for several days I will, with your permission, follow the usual custom and take them as read.

Satisfactory Profit

The Accounts now before you disclose the very satisfactory profit of Ch.$835,710.06 as compared with a profit last year of Ch$186,354.27. This increased profit is attributable partly to the difference in the exchange rate, but in addition the output of rubber was 200,762 lb. greater than that for last year, and the net proceeds received for our product were 2½ pence per pound higher.

The expenditure on replanting a further 37 acres and the upkeep of the 300 acres of rubber replanted in 1936, 1937 and 1938 amounted to St.$ 13,949.66 equivalent to Ch.$ 91,473.18, which sum it is proposed to write off from Profit and Loss Account.

There was no expenditure on Capital Account during the year.

Financially, the company is in a reasonably satisfactory position since, if you pass the recommendations now made by you Directors, the company will start the new financial year with a Surplus of Liquid Assets over Cash Liabilities amounting to Ch.$ 556,-019.67.

The Final Standard Production Assessment for 1941 has not yet been announced, but the Provisional Assessment shows no change and you will easily be able to figure out for yourselves that with the increase in the exportable quota, the increase in the market price of raw rubber and the material further drop in the rate of exchange for Chinese dollars, the prospects for the current year are every bit as attractive as the result shown by the Accounts now under consideration.

Planting Matters

Turning now to planting matters, A further 37 acres were replanted with germinated seed and will be budgrafted in the field next year. The 300 acres replanted during 1936, 1937 and 1938 are reported to be making excellent progress. This, as I told you last year, is attributable to the great care that was exercised at the time of planting and to the generous application of fertiliser at that time. The 93 acres replanted in 1936 will be tappable next October.

A further area of 40 acres will be cleared and replanted during 1941 and similar methods will be employed as regards planting and fertilizing, this forms part of a definite programme for the gradual replacement of the rubber areas which are slowly becoming unremunerative units.

The standard of tapping has been maintained at its usual high standard and the yield per acre per annum for the 1,205 acres that were in tapping during the year was 591 lbs.

The supply of labour was plentiful throughout the year and the rate of wages averaged 45.8 cents per day as against 37.8 cents per day last year.

The general health of the labour force was excellent.

Weeding of the mature area cost 5 cents per acre per month this year as compared with 3 cents last year and of the immature are $1.34 per acre per month this year as compared with $1.08 last year. The whole Estate is in excellent condition as regards upkeep, the increased cost being due entirely to the higher wages that had to be paid.

Apart from the usual small amount of root disease neither pests nor diseases gave any trouble.

The machinery was overhauled at regular intervals and gave satisfactory service throughout the year.

All buildings were kept in a serviceable state and no replacements will be necessary in the near future.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I would like to express our very best thanks to the manager, Mr. Sparke, and to his subordinate staff, and to the agents in Penang for the excellent manner in which they have administered the affairs of the Estate during the year under review.

That is all that I have to say, Gentlemen, and I will now propose that the directors' report and statement of accounts as presented by adopted and passed.

The following resolutions were adopted:

1. That the Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended September 30, 1940, as presented, be adopted and passed.

Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch, and seconded by Mr. L. E. Canning.

2. That a Final Dividend of Chinese Standard Dollar Five per share be paid

Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch, and seconded by Mr. L. E. Canning.

3. That the sum of Chinese Standard Dollars seven thousand be donated to the Voluntary War Contribution Fund.

Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch, and seconded by Mr. L. E. Canning.

4. That the sum of Chinese Standard Dollars One thousand be donated to the British Residents Association.

Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch, and seconded by Mr. L. E. Canning.

5. That Mr. L. E. Canning be re-elected a Director of the Company.

Proposed by Mr. Wong Sing-fan, and seconded by Mr. Chiung Shun-hun.

6. That Messrs. Thomson & Company be re-elected Auditors to the Company for the ensuing year and that their fee for auditing the Accounts now before you be Ch.$500.92.

Proposed by Mr. Chang Tsai-tung, and seconded by Mr. Dong Mai-kwun.

Samagaga Rubber Co.

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

The annual general meeting of the Samagaga Rubber Company Ltd. was held yesterday in the offices of the secretaries and Managers, J. A. Wattie & Co. at noon. Mr. A. J. Welch was in the chair, supported by Messrs. L. E. Canning and H. Kadoorie, directors, and D. E. Levy, representing the secretaries. There were 388,450 shares represented. After the notice convening the meeting had been read, the chairman said:—

The Report and Accounts having been in your hands for the prescribed period I propose, with your permission, to follow the usual procedure and to take them as read.

The Accounts now before you disclose a profit of Ch. $561,542.33 as compared with a profit for the previous year of Ch.$113,889.06.

Contributing Factors

Several factors have contributed towards this satisfactory result. Firstly, the output of rubber was 161,586 lb. greater that it was last year, the average net price realized for our product was 2.01 pence per pound higher, and furthermore the expenditure on Revenue Account was .17 of a penny per pound less, and lastly, but no least important, the average rate of exchange ruling for the year under review was 15¼ as compared with 26 1/16 last year.

Referring now to the Balance Sheet, the Expenditure of Capital Account totalled Ch.$202,143.21, of which Ch.$43,331.67 were spent on the clearing and planting up of 51¾ acres of the old Coconut area; Ch. $53,978.10 on the purchase of a new Sheeting Battery, 6 Aluminium Coagulating Tanks and a new dynamo; and Ch.$104,833.44 on a New Factory and Smoke House and two Coolie Lines.

Financially, the company is steadily getting into a more satisfactory position since, if you pass the recommendations now made by your Directors, it will start the new financial year with a Surplus of Liquid Assets over Cash Liabilities of Chinese $223,513 in spite of the heavy expenditure on Capital Account this year.

Turning now to planting matters, the remaining 51¾ acres of the old coconut area were cleared and planted with rubber during the financial year and the young plants are reported to be making excellent progress.

The whole of the planted area is now in a fine state of upkeep, the majority of the area being under a leguminous cover crop except for the riverside fields where flooding makes it impossible to grow cover, consequently these few fields are kept clean weeded.

The Estate has been granted a provisional Standard Production Assessment for 1941 of 555,700 lb., which is equivalent to 491 lb. per acre, whereas the area in tapping during the year under review yielded at the rate of 515 lb. per acre, the Assessment is therefore below the producing capacity of the Estate.

The supply of Labour was sufficient for all requirements at all times and I am glad to say that the health of the Coolies continued to show a steady improvement. The average rate of wages was increased from 40.54 cents per day to 45.54 cents.

Neither pests nor diseases gave any trouble during the year and such few cases as were met with were promptly dealt with.

Machinery Satisfactory

The new machinery continued to work very satisfactorily and economically.

All buildings were given the necessary upkeep but a new bungalow for a member of the subordinate staff and a new office will be erected during the coming year.

Speaking generally the Estate is now in first class condition and I feel confident that we can safely rely on the Manager, Mr. Lockyear, to keep it so. We cannot expect much, if any, further reduction in the cost of weeding if the Estate is to be maintained in its present clean condition.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I would like to express our very cordial thanks to Mr. Lockyear, the manager, to his subordinate staff, and to the agents in the Straits for the care and attention that they have devoted to the affairs of the company. The success of their efforts is amply reflected in the report now before you.

That concludes my remarks, Gentlemen, and I will now propose that the Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts, as presented, be adopted and passed.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

1. That the Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended September 30, 1940, as presented, be adopted and passed. Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch, and seconded by Mr. H. Kadoorie.

2. That the Final Dividend of Twenty Chinese Standard Dollar cents per share be paid. Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch, and seconded by Mr. H. Kadoorie.

3. That the sum of Chinese Standard Dollars Five thousand be donated to the Voluntary War Contribution Fund. Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch, and seconded by Mr. H. Kadoorie.

4. That Mr. L. E. Canning be re-elected a Director of the company. Proposed by Mr. D. E. Levy, and seconded by Mr. Woo Chi-ming.

5. That Messrs. Thomson & Company be elected Auditors of the company and that their fee for auditing the Accounts now before you be Ch.$506.98. Proposed by Mr. Quincey Wu, and seconded by Mr. M. K. Dong.

Ayer Tawah Rubber Co.

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

The thirty-first annual general meeting of shareholders of the Ayer Tawah Rubber Plantation Co. Ltd. was held yesterday in the offices of the Secretaries, the Geddes Trading & Dairy Farm Co. Ltd., 61 Yuen Ming Yuen Road. Mr. L. E. Canning, (Chairman) presided, supported by Messrs. T. Hunter and A. J. Welch, Directors, Mr. F. H. Artindale, representing the Secretaries, and the following Shareholders:—Messrs. G. Hunter, D.G.J. Keet, P. D. Raeburn, S. Davidian, and Wong Yu Ching.

The total holding represented, inclusive of proxies, was 68,752 shares. The Chairman's speech was as follows:—

The Report and Accounts having been in your hands for the requisite period, I will, with your permission, follow the usual procedure and take them as read.

I am pleased to be able to come before you this time with a more gratifying Balance Sheet. The past year may indeed be regarded as a record one as we have made a profit of Ch.$844,570.99 which is six times greater than the profit of the previous year of Ch.$138,923.58. This satisfactory result has been brought about by the increase in the average release from 48 per cent. to 77½ per cent. the better average price realised of 37-2/3rds. Straits cents per lb. as compared with 26½ Straits cents per lb. for last year, and a more favourable rate of exchange for remittances this year. This improvement bids fair to be maintained for the present year as the releases for 1941 have already started with 97½ per cent. for the first quarter, and prices are still between 38/39 cents per lb.

Condition Satisfactory

Your Estate is gradually being replanted with Budgraft Trees which are making good progress. The condition of the Estate is very satisfactory and with the large reserves we have been able to carry forward, viz., a surplus of liquid assets over liabilities of Ch.$575,893.84 your Estate is, you will agree, in a very sound position.

The Final Dividend of $1.20 that your Board is going to recommend will make a total of $1.40 for the year, or exactly 100 per cent. of the share capital which I believe shareholders will consider extremely satisfactory.

I wish on your behalf to thank the Manager, Agents and Visiting Agent, and all concerned with the Estate, for the very fine work they have put in during the past year.

Gentlemen, I will now propose that the Report and Statement of Account for the year ended September 30, 1940, as presented, be accepted and passed. This resolution is seconded by Mr. A. J. Welch, but before formally putting it to the meeting, I will be pleased to answer any questions there-anent to the best of my ability.

There being no questions, the following resolutions were put to the meeting and carried unanimously:—

"That the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended September 30, 1940, as presented, be accepted and passed." Proposed by L. E. Canning, seconded by A. J. Welch.

"That a dividend of China standard dollars one and cents twenty per share on the issued share capital of the Company be declared and paid to the Shareholders on the Register on December 27, 1940." Proposed by L. E. Canning, seconded by T. Hunter.

"That Mr. A. J. Welch be re-elected a Director of the Company." Proposed by L. E. Canning, seconded by T. Hunter.

"That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors to the company for the ensuing year in the Straits at an annual remuneration of St. $180 and in Shanghai at an annual remuneration of $600. Proposed by P. D. Raeburn, seconded by D. G. J. Keet.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

Miss Arguello Wins Pink

Going on the Heavy Side; Winner Does Well To Beat Boogie Moller by Three Lengths

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

THE Christmas Hunt saw another member of the Shanghai Paper Hunt Club enrolled in that select band of "pink" thrusters. Miss Arguello on Ali Bey came through on an outstanding last quarter to nose out Boogie Moller on Christmaslight. The start was at the Cross Jump on Monument Road, where fifty odd riders were sent away with the usual Christmas Greetings by Herbert Spence.

Paper took the field over the flats to Crawford's Line, through the 16 Creek Wade to Liddell's far Rubicon platform and south to green paper at the well-known stone bridge north west of Chalejao. The going was on the heavy side and a rest was more than welcome. The knowing ones continued to take it easy through Temple Cap to the Big Tree Wade and Shaw's village, where a surprise awaited them. In my twenty years and more across country, I seem always to remember green paper at Shaw's village but this year the old wade was again negotiable and white paper continued down Shaw's line—smaller than usual this year but as long as ever and tiring to ponies, which decided the fox to lay green paper again at the Ladies' Wade Bridge. The field had by then dwindled to 40.

Check at Obstruction Wade

From here a straight run home was intended but some said that farmers laid a check to the Obstruction Wade village, others admitted they were looking for hoof marks more than paper and themselves made a check on that account. The paper party had trotted down a broad path laying paper at the side of it towards Kenjoy and Plum Line. Dod Pollock, A. E. Arnold and some others gained a fine lead here, followed at no great distance by Herbert Spence. There was no let up past No. 12 trees to Spence's Wade, Christas Wade and Sparke's Pit with the finish at the Hungjao Polo Ground. Both Miss Arguello on Ali Bay and Boogie Moller on Christmaslight had a lot of ground to make up and their performance was outstanding, the lighter weight (some 50 lb. lighter) gaining the verdict by a good three or four lengths. It was the first time we had seen Christmaslight extended. To Miss Arguello we offer our sincere congratulations on her first win. Herbert Spence finished 5th on Helldriver to win the Heavyweight whilst Cissie Pollock and her father, both on Y's, filled 3rd and 6th places in a field full of the best Z's, White Sale qualifying for the Challenge Cup.

Moller Christmas Cups

The winners will be the first to receive the Moller Christmas Cups which were recently presented to the Club by Mr. Eric Moller in appreciation of over 40 years of happy paper hunting experience in Shanghai.

It was good to see Chester Fritz again in the field, just returned from America, and a whole host of good friends, old and young, at the finish. It was voted a good ride and there was very little grief. The line was well known to old thrusters but had not been given for many years and the run in over Sparke's Pit to the Polo Ground is always one of the best.

The card read as follows:

Miss E. Arguello .....Ali Bey Z
R. B. Moller .....Christmaslight Z
Miss C. Pollock .....White Sale Y
A. C. Yuan .....Milady Z
H. M. Spence (heavyweight) Helldriver Z
G. Pollock .....Zealous Chap Y

Mrs. Andrews and the Master in Even Race

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Tearing across the furrows and taking the last few jumps in a tight bunch, the climax of yesterday's hunt was one of the closest that has been seen for many years and a fitting decision was the dead-heat verdict between Mrs. E. Andrews and the Master, J. H. Liddell, for first place, while within the distance of three lengths the remainder of the card galloped passed the flags.

The Hunt met at Ah Pao's finish on the Minghong Road and hacked to the start at Billy Coutts Line, near the third bridge. The course led to Mulberry Corner and the Keystone Jump, a good one at which there was a refusal or two, on to the wade to Forth Bridge Line and platform. Then came Rosemarie's Rush, a fine jump and a gallop to a steep wade followed by a big dry cut and a large right-handed loop to the willow's jump. The double creek platform and jumps followed and so to the wade to Smugglers' Way and the Minghong Road at Fifth Bridge. Paper continued westwards to Grayriggs Gap and the winding creek line, Green Paper being found at the Double Wade through Winding Creek. It had been a magnificent run thus far. Jumps were larger, but more natural than in better known country, and the going was perfect. Dr. Robertson, Mrs. Liddell and Mrs. Andrews were out in front most of the way. Kenneth Brand, by the looks of him, had had a fall somewhere, but there was no other evidence of grief.

From Green Paper the Hunt galloped northwest to Drakeford's Dive which the field took in splendid style and then on to the Turks Head.

Check Near Gullands Bridge

Turk's Head line followed, nearly a mile long and very good with its varied jumps and a bank or two. The hunt was going pretty fast here but was checked near Gullands Bridge. Paper was found over three or four good jumps leading to the wade at Lee Hong Village, the whole hunt being well bunched at this point and shortly afterwards around the corner of a village the flags came into sight.

The finish lay over the Cocktails to the Wu Ka Cha dry cut and a closer finish can scarcely be imagined. The whole card was within 3 lengths of the winners and the result was finally adjudged a dead heat between Mrs. E. Andrews and the Master Mr. J. H. Liddell.

The full card reads:—

1. Mrs. E. Andrews on Idiots Delight
HW 1. Mr. J. H. Liddell on White Whiskers.
3. Miss L. Andrews on Slipus
4. Mr. H. Azadian on Grey Dawn
5. A. F. Clark on The Jacana
6. Mr. L. R. Moore on Contentment

Shanghai Ladies Beat Erin Villa

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Despite fielding only ten players, several of whom were beginners, the Shanghai Ladies triumphed over the Erin Villa in a friendly hockey encounter, at the Race Course yesterday, by the close score of two goals to one.

After trailing by one goal to nil at the half time the Shanghai Ladies altered their line-up to include Iris Mottu among the forwards. This change seemed to make a world of difference as the forwards, until then, seemed to be listless. Iris Mottu fitted into her new position perfectly although she had not played in it before, her favourite position being left back.

The Shanghai Ladies were obviously the stronger team after they had shuffled their line-up and controlled the better part of the game while the backs moved well up in the field to stand near the centre of the field. A great part of the winner's success may be attributed to the excellent performance of Margot Ringall between the posts. Playing without pads she cleared some of the most impossible shots, while her keen sense of anticipation prevented several almost certain points from being scored.

Erin Villa drew first blood when they waded into the Shanghai Ladies part of the ground and literally bombarded the Shanghai Ladies' goal but all their attempts were from the edge of the circle and were swiftly cleared by Margot Ringall. Their persistent efforts were finally rewarded after 20 minutes of play when, from a short scrimmage, an Erin Villa player slammed the ball in.

Although the Shanghai Ladies prevented the opposition from scoring again they could not retaliate. The best they could do was to come within the circle but every one of their shots at goal proved to be weak and were no test for the Erin Villa custodian.

A re-shuffled line-up in the second half saw a completly unrecognizable Shanghai Ladies' team take the field to play quite a different type of game from that of the first half. They became the aggressors and shortly after the resumption of the game were able to score through Mrs. Barton, while in less then ten minutes Iris Mottu beat the Erin Villa goalie with a hard drive for the second point.

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Shanghai Hockey

J.A.C. Take "B" Title

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

The "B" division title of the Ladies Hockey League fell to the J.A.C. when they defeated the A.S.P. "B" in a decisive match by the score of two nil at the Race Course yesterday afternoon after a much more one-sided tussle than the score would indicate.

Holding a definite advantage as far as territorial gain was concerned the J.A.C. controlled the greater part of the game and allowed the losers to invade their goal barely six times during the entire game. The strong forward line of the winners although aggressive proved to be weak within the scoring circle and slightly more accurate marksmanship would have seen them triumph by a much wider difference in scores.

The A.S.P. seemed to take the field with the hopeless attitude of being certain victims and took their defeat as a matter of course. In fact, most of the team's supporters expected to see them suffer a heavier defeat, and consider the score of two nil a very satisfactory one.

Marie da Silva, who played for Portugal in the recent international game, and Sarita Harrison were easily the best players on the field and played a sterling game for the losers. Their efforts, however, were nullified through the total lack of support from the other members of the team whose stick work left a lot to be desired.

For the winners, Elvey Corea and Bella Barros were prominent throughout with aggressive tactics. Each netted a point for their side. Although the side lacked team understanding, sheer individualism and grim determination seemed to be their strongest assest and the chief factor of their success.

The first half of the game went by scoreless although the J.R.C. dominated the general run of the play. Their earlier efforts were eventually rewarded in the second period when Elvey Corea scored the first point soon after the "bully—off." Ten minutes later Bella Barros dashed in to register the second point.

Shanghai Rugby

Japanese Civilians Lose

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

Displaying considerably more determination than their doughty opponents a combined Police/Club XV defeated a Shanghai Nipponjin (Japanese Civilians) side at the Race Course yesterday afternoon by the large margin of eighteen points (five tries and one penalty goal) to nine (three tries) after a most keenly fought encounter that was controlled throughout by the winners' forwards. Keeping the ball tight for the greater part of the struggle the winners' forwards gave the fast-moving Japanese backs little opportunity to get on the move and when the latter did, the Police/Club outsides saw to it on most occasions that there few loopholes in an always hard-playing defence.

Police/Club XV:—J. D. Killingbeck; L. R. Hocking, A. G. Brandt, S. M. Thornley, F. W. Bader; L. Ellis, O. Okimoto; A. Gammie, G. Hodgman, J. W. Chapman, G. Harrison, W. H. Richardson, R. J. N. MacKay, G. H. Reynolds and J. R. Harling.

Shanghai Nipponjin XV:—Koyama; Minatogawa, Yamura, Hara, Sakurauchi; Sakamoto, Yagai, Takarabe; Miyahara, Inouye, Yamazaki, Hamada, Sibuki, Yana, Miyahara.

Referee: G. S. Dunkley.

British Navy Lose For First Time

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

The British Navy footballers suffered the first defeat of the season yesterday when the representatives of the French Forces nosed them out in the second period with the odd goal in three in a second division fixture at the Race Course.

The British bluejackets were given a golden opportunity to tie the count towards the end when a penalty kick was declared in their favour. Hernsey who took the spot kick, lifted the leather over the cross-bar.

The game was played in a vigorous manner but on no occasion there was any sign of roughness. The French Forces drew first blood and obtained their first goal through a penalty kick. At half time the French were leading by one nil.

In the second period Walkden, the British centre-forward, scored an equalizer in a solo effort, dribbling the leather for about 30 yards into the opposing territory and finishing up with a fine shot. The French, however, forged into the lead again a few minutes later when Heloyan headed the ball into the top corner of the net.

About five minutes to play a French defender was penalized for fouling in the dreaded area. Hornsey was deputized to take the spot kick but unfortunately he lifted the ball a few inches too high, to throw away an equalizer.

The Victorious British Ladies Team

The British Ladies team that vanquished the Portuguese ladies in the hockey international on Boxing Day by two goals to one. The team includes Mykins, Hopkins, Frances Wood, Emma Hay, Esther Bloomfield, Joan Harling, Anne Mackeith, Betty Gray, Jean Wheeler, Nora Chadderton, Pat Kendall, Stella Roberts.

Great Britain Beats Portugal

Impressive Standard of Hockey Reached in Hotly Contested Match ; British Ladies Play Five Game

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

MAKING full use of their scoring opportunities, Great Britain sprang a surprise on Portugal in a ladies' friendly International hockey match yesterday afternoon at the Race Course when they edged at their rivals by 2-1. A hotly-contested tussle was witnessed with the games reaching an impressive standard of play at times. As a team, the Portuguese had the edge over their rivals but Great Britain maintained a staunch defence, bided their time, and when their chance came, they burst through to score two goals.

The first half almost ended with neither side being able to score, but just two minutes before the half-time whistle, Great Britain jumped into the lead when Nora Chadderton found her mark.

With all major soccer and hockey games cancelled, a large gathering of spectators was on hand to witness Britain's triumph. They witnessed the well-oiled machinery of Portugal keeping Britain continually at bay in the first half. What little shooting was done was attempted mostly by Portugal; owing to the tenacious marking by the British backs, however, the Portuguese forwards had to take hasty aims with the result that they failed to score once in the initial period.

Outstanding Player of the Game

Undoubtedly the most outstanding player on the field was Mary Collaco, whose excellent stickwork and speed was the main source of danger to the British defence. This left-wing received superb support from Amanda Silva, the inside-left, and the two displayed impressive understanding of each other's play.

Of the Portuguese halves, Marie Augusta's spoiling tactics came in extremely useful. Despite the fact that Britain scored two goals, neither the backs, Ange Gonsalves and Evelyn Collaco, nor the goal-keeper, "Jiggy" Pereira could be blamed for letting them in as they were well-nigh unstoppable.

Two Best British Players

Two players on Britain's line-up stood head and shoulders above the rest of the team; these were Frances Wood at right back and Betty Gray on the left-wing. No matter how hot the attack, Mrs. Wood was always in the thick of it and almost invariably she pushed the Portuguese forward-line back into their own territory with clean and hard clearances. Meanwhile, Miss Gray gave a headache to the Portuguese defence through her lightning-like dashes down the side-line.

The hard hitting of Esther Bloomfield, the steady play of Joan Harling and the almost unbeatable Anne Mackeith gave Britain a staunch half-line. Nora Chadderton and Jean Wheeler turned in praiseworthy games but they over-rated the speed and stamina of the other forwards with their lusty through passes.

Britain Starts Off Well

Britain started off strongly from the bully off and held territorial advantage for the first five minutes, but thereafter the Portuguese forwards had the lion's share of the play. They had three excellent chances of scoring, but in each case the ball was driven wide. Most disappointing to the Portuguese supporters was the going away of Miss Mary Collaco's effort. This fleet-footed winger outwitted two of the work but her long run from the 25-yard line took all the wind out of her with the result that she shot straight on to Myrtle Hopkins' pads after having only the goalie to beat.

Two Goals by Mrs. Chadderton

Two minutes before the interval, a breakaway saw Britain open their account. In a partial scrimmage in front of the Portuguese goal the ball was flung out on to the wing. Miss Gray snapped it up and a beautiful centre saw Mrs. Chadderton in position to score with a first-timer. Half-time score:—1-0 in favour of Britain.

Exchanges in the second half was much more even with the British defence putting up a strong front. Nevertheless, 10 minutes after resumption, Mrs. Thelma Collaco scored through a sea of legs with a hard drive when Miss Mary Collaco sent a high shot from the left wing.

Five minutes later the winning goal was chalked up when Mrs. Chadderton netted her second point through a brilliant solo run into the scoring circle. As Miss Pereira ran out of her goal, Mrs. Chadderton sent the ball rolling into the net.

The teams were:—

Great Britain:—Myrtle Hopkins; Frances Wood, Emma Hay; Esther Bloomfield, Joan Harling, Anne Mackeith; Betty Gray, Jean Wheeler, Nora Chadderton, Pat Kendall, Stella Roberts.

Portugal:—Flavia Pereira; Ange Gonsalves, Evelyn Collaco; Marie Silva, Mimie Victal, Louisa Lobo; Marie Canavarro, Hilda Marcal, Thelma Collaco, Amanda de Silva, Mary Collaco.

Max Baer Becomes No. 1 Heavyweight Contender

New York, Dec. 27.

The magazine Ring's annual ratings yesterday listed Max Baer as No. 1 contender for Joe Louis' heavyweight boxing crown. Baer was given the honour because he knocked out Tony Galento and Lou Comiskey this year.

The magazine predicted that Billy Conn, who fights Louis in June, would not last long against the "Brown Bomber."

The magazine did not list the middleweight, batamweight and flyweight titlists, but listed the leaders in each division as Louis, heavyweight; Conn, light-heavyweight, Ken Overlin, middleweight; Fritzie Zivic, welterweight; Lew Jenkins, lightweight; H. Jaffra, featherweight; F. Olivera, bantamweight, and Jackie Paterson of Scotland, flyweight.—United Press.

Local Boxing

Drawn Battle Fought

Shanghai, Dec. 23

Thursday night's fight card at the Russian Club left a little to be desired. Three technical knockouts, followed by the crashing defeat of "Slugger" Simpkins in the third stanza of a scheduled six-round fight, making it Tihanoff's second kayo victory in a week, together with a well-deserved win on points for Young George, were the high-lights of the night's programme.

The main bout would have been better rated as an exhibition.

There was one redeeming feature in that final clash. Fans were treated to as neat an exhibition of "telegraphed punches" as was ever given. The ten-rounds scintillated with snappy bobbing, weaving and trading of punches on the part of the Filipino, who showed an almost impenetrable defence by keeping his chin well covered by his left shoulder. He avoided the hail of blows from the Russian in masterly style but occasionally waded in and launched a terrific, lightning two-fisted attack. However these were spasmodic and of short duration which enabled the Russian to pull himself together and carry the show to the finish.

Tihanoff Springs Surprise

There was action in the card. The Tihanoff-Simpkins feud proved another surprise. Drawing first blood the Marine encountered difficulty in checking the blind and bull-like rushes of the Russian. The latter was out to get his man and consequently threw the little science he possessed to the winds.

Both lads opened cautiously in the initial round with the Marine using his left to effect. A slashing right as the Russian came in drew the the claret from Tihanoff who retaliated with a battery of left swings to even the count. The third round witnessed a ferocious rush on the part of the southpaw as the gong went. Several telling blows were landed by the Russian and as the Marine left the ropes a deadly one-two sent him to the canvas for the full count.

Another snappy six-round clash was that between Young George of the Russian Regiment and Baby Gourevich. The former's straight lefts and grand rally in the closing rounds gave him a well-deserved decision.

Joe Clara proved no match for Battling Kulinberg. There was more than ten pounds difference between the scrappers. However, Clara did try to make a match with his jabs and pretty footwork. He kept the Russian at arm's length in the opening rounds but the Russian was not to be done "out of his kill." In a mix-up Clara was caught low and after the three minutes' grace decided to call it a day.

The curtain-raisers were good. Kid Ruckenstein of Vienna scored a technical k.o. when he launched a deadly "blitzkreig" in the fourth and final stanza against Ez Piassetsky who had the fight cinched. The latter's seconds saved their lad from a lacing throwing in the sponge. Typhoon Ling had to concede over ten pounds in his fight with Kid Friedlander. Here the night's first t.k.o. was registered when the Korean quit at the end of the third.

Draper won the American wrestling by securing two straight falls in less than a minute apiece. His opponent was Ushaw of the Marines.

Colours Defeat Whites In Junior Rugby Game

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

Enthusiasts in Shanghai who have made attempts to popularize this sport amongst the younger members of the community met at the Race Course yesterday afternoon for the third of what is hoped will be a series of games for players under 21 years of age.

Although it was necessary to fill in with two or three older and more experienced club members the majority of the players, still in their teens providing a sufficient number of participants, were comparatively new to the game. The general fitness and enthusiasm exhibited by everyone promises well for the future of the Rugby Club.

The game was handled by Reynolds the captain of the Club, who refereed and at the same time instructed the new-comers in the basic rules of the handling code. Both of the Scrums worked hard. The Colours Pack under the leadership of Whalen had a slight edge over their opponents.

The game was evenly contested the final scores being 6 points (two tries) to 5 points (one goal) in favour of the colours. The outsides showed signs of promise, Scott and Gauntlett did pricularly well as a half-back combination, while Weidman, Corfield and Beeman were the best of the new three quarters.

Regional Football Results

London, Dec. 26.

Following are the results of regional football matches played yesterday:

NORTH

Blackburn Rovers 0, Preston N. End 0
Bradford City 0, Huddersfield Town 5
Wrexham 2, Chester 1
Chesterfield 2, York City 0
Doncaster Rovers 0, Lincoln City 0
Grimsby Town 1, Hull City 1
Leeds United 2, Bradford 1
Liverpool 3, Everton 1
Rochdale 0, Oldham Athletic 3
Rotherham United 0, Barnsley 0
Sheffield United 2, Sheffield Wed. 4
Southport 1, New Brighton 2

SOUTH

Bournemouth 7, Bristol City 1
Brentford 2, Queen's Park Rangers 1
Norwich City 18, Brighton 0
Crystal Palace 0, Charlton Athletic 2
Southend United 0, Clapton Orient 3
Chelsea 5, Fulham 2
Northampton 5, Leicester 2
Nottingham Forest 2, Notts County 4
Reading 4, Aldershot 5
Portsmouth 1, Southampton 2
Swansea Town 1, Cardiff City 3
Tottenham Hotspur 3, Millwall 3
Walsall 6, Birmingham 3
Watford 2, Luton Town 22
West Ham United 4, Arsenal 2

RETURN MATCHES NORTHERN

Crew 2, Tranmere 2
Barnsley 3, Rotherham 3
Rochdale 2, Oldham 3
Huddersfield 3, Bradford City 4
Lincoln 3, Doncaster 1
Chester 1, Wrexham 3

SOUTH

Leicester 7, Northampton 2
Luton 4, Watford 1.—Reuter.

Dec. 29.

Following are the results of regional football matches played yesterday:

NORTH

Barnsley 6, Lincoln City 0
Bradford City 2, Sheffield Wednesday 4
Burnley 2, Preston North End 0
Chester 3, Oldham Athletic 4
Crewe Alexandra 5, Wrexham 0
Doncaster Rovers 2, Middlesbrough 0
Huddersfield Town 1, Manchester C. 2
Leeds United 2, Chesterfield 3
Liverpool 9, Tranmere Rovers 0
Manchester United 5, Blackburn R. 2
New Brighton 0, Everton 3
Sheffield United 2, Rotherham United 0
Southport 3, Stockport County 0
York City 0, Bradford 0

SOUTH

Arsenal 1, Luton Town 8
Brentford 3, Millwall 2
Brighton And Hove Albion 1, Crystal Palace 5
Cardiff City 5, Bournemouth 1
Chelsea 6, Aldershot 0
Clapton Orient 7, Tottenham Hotspur 0
Coventry City 4, Birmingham 2
Norwich City 3, Mansfield Town 1
Notts County 2, Leicester City 0
Southampton 5, Bristol City 0
Walsall 5, Stoke City 1
Watford 1, Southend United 1
West Bromwich Albion 5, Nottingham Forest 3
West Ham United 1, Fulham 1

SCOTTISH

Airdrieonians 0, Rangers 2
Celtic 5, Queen's Park 1
Falkirk 2, Albion Rovers 0
Hibernian 3, Hamilton Acads. 1
Motherwell 4, Clyde 6
Partick Thistle 2, Morton 2
St. Mirren 4, Dumbarton 0
Third Lanark 2, Hearts 0.—Reuter.

Rugby Union Results

London, Dec. 27.

Following are the results of matches played in the Rugby Union yesterday:—

Cardiff 16, Welsh XV 0
Gloucester 26, Army XV 3
Home Counties, Rest Of England
Public Schools 14, Public Schools 3

Dec. 29.

Following are the results of matches played in the Rugby Union yesterday:

Guys Hospital 3, New Ealand Army 33
Cardiff 11, R.A.F. 6
Gloucester 33, Army XV 8
Northampton 5, St. Barts Hospital 5
Bath 8, Army XV 0.—Reuter.

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES (continued)

United "A" Win Annual Game

United Forwards Play Inspired Game to Clinch Victory by 3-1; Chanturai is Outstanding

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

SHOWING flashes of form reminiscent of their hey-day when they were league champions, the United "A" had no difficulty in subduing the Shanghai "All-Indian" eleven by 3-1 in the annual fixture between these two teams. The Race Course was the scene of the United victory and though they triumphed by a margin of only two goals, a little more luck would have given them a runaway win.

The tactics of the United forwards were a revelation. This team is better known for its hard first-timers at the goal in scoring attempts but yesterday the ball was slipped from stick to stick as the United forwards tried to bundle the ball into the Indian goal with short, sharp passes.

In the first 15 minutes, the winning team were seen at their best, perfect understanding existing between the halves and the forwards to have the Indian defence all at sea. It was also in this period that the United forged ahead by two clear goals when Hetherington laid the foundation for his team's triumph by netting two quick-witted points.

Chanturai Plays Inspired Game

A powerful half-line and a bunch of inspired forwards was responsible for the ease with which the United took the measure of the Indians. Chanturai played one of his most sparkling games of this season; hardly ever did he failed to stop the ball, and his clearances to his forwards sent them on one promising run after another. Parvis Kermani turned in another sterling display on the half-line, his distribution of the ball with swift hits maintaining the game continually at a swift clip.

It is difficult to pick out the stars on the forward line as they played more as a unit than as individuals. The understanding between Hetherington and Peter Bojesen was prominent. In contrast with their rivals, the United made free use of their wings with the result that both Hans Bojesen and Murray were continually dangerous in their runs down the side-lines. Reuben seemed to have a bit of difficulty in fitting in with the attack not having played with the other forwards frequently this season, but he was a threat with his first-time drives at goal.

United Defence Not Pressed

The United defence was not given many hectic moments. After a shaky start, Pate got his eye in and was making timely clearances to break the back of many of the Indian thrusts.

Combination on the Indian team was not too apparent, the players preferring to hit hard and trust to luck. With their wings being starved, their inside forwards had a busy time but they failed to break through very often as the United defence was concentrated in the middle of the field.

P. S. Kung proved the most difficult men on the Indian defence to outwit, his fine spoiling tactics stopping the United forwards in their tracks. The lusty drives of Gurmukh Singh, at centre half, had a tendency of opening up the game. Spuran Singh, at inside left, was the greatest thorn in the side of the United defence as his whip-like drives were ever dangerous.

Rugby League Results

London, Dec. 26.

Following are the results of games played in the Rugby League yesterday:—

Bradford 37, Bramley 2
Castleford 4, Wakefield 11
Dewsbury 8, Featherstone 15
Huddersfield 8, Halifax 13
Hull 13, Hunslet 11
Leeds 28, Batley 5
Liverpool 5, Warrington 10
Wigan 12, Salford 0
York 29, Keighley 13

Dec. 29.

Following are the results of games played in the Rugby League yesterday:—

Bradford 16, Wakefield 8
Bramley 9, Featherstone 0
Castleford 25, Keighley 11
Dewsbury 5, Leeds 5
Halifax 35, York 14
Hull 24, Huddersfield 8
Hunslet 25, Batley 7
Warrington 19, Oldham 2.—Reuter.

Woman Olympic Swimmer Insane

Algiers, Dec. 30.

Mlle. Yvonne Godard, woman swimming champion at the last Olympic games in Berlin and French record holder, was interned in an insane asylum here recently, it was disclosed yesterday. Police prevented her attempted dive from a window and took her to the Mustapha hospital for the insane, said reports.—United Press.

Derby Winners For America

London, Dec. 17.

Derby winners for America continues to be one of the chief topics among English racing men. Mahmoud was the latest to go, and now it is said that yet another will be following him. Negotiations between American breeders and the agents for the English owner are going on.

Owners who, like the Aga Khan, have invested huge sums of money in owning and breeding, cannot be blamed if they relieve themselves of some of their burdens, but it is much more inspiring to hear the statements of owners like Lord Derby that they will keep their important stallions in England.

Possible Government Action

It may even be that the time for Government action has come.

All industries come under Government control in some form or another in war-time, and horse racing and breeding is a big industry, with much capital sunk in it and giving work to thousands of people. One of the drawbacks to Government action at the moment is that there is no unanimity of opinion on the desirability of keeping racing going. Opponents of racing would be glad to see more horses going to America, on the grounds that they would not then be consuming feeding stuffs in England, or breeding when a decrease in the number of horses is desirable.

There are still thousands of horses in training in England, but there is, nevertheless, the danger of the supply of really first-class material drying up. When the war ends British owners and breeders want to take up their traditional place.

The English Derby remains the best known race in the world, and the winning of it the premier honour. Now Americans will be keener than ever on an all-American victory in this event. Mr. Pierre Lorillard's Iroquois won in 1881 and Mr. Duryea's Durbar II in 1914, but they never ran in America and were trained one in England and the other in France.

"Naturalized Americans"

It will still not be accurate to talk of an all-American victory if the offspring of the Derby winners that have crossed the Atlantic come over to England and win the race themselves. But they will become "naturalised Americans" and in time the distinctively British strain will be lost.

One interesting point is that some of the progeny of the Derby winners may be half-breeds according to the English stud book.

At a time when former Derby winners are in the public eye comes the news of the death of one of them, Sansovino, who provided Lord Derby with his first Derby winner in 1924. —Reuter.

Joe Louis Stands Alone in Ratings

Milwaukee, Dec. 26.

The quarterly ratings of the National Boxing Association, released yesterday, placed Joe Louis, heavyweight champion at the head of the list, with a notation, "none available," in the column in which logical contenders normally were listed.

The ratings placed Max Baer, Arturo Godoy and Red Burman as outstanding heavyweight boxers next to Louis.

Abe Simons of New York, regarded as a likely opponent of the "Brown Bomber" next March, rated an honourable mention with seven others.

Billy Conn, who announced Tuesday that he planned to relinquish the light-heavyweight crown before meeting Joe Louis in June, still was listed as light-heavyweight champion.—United Press.

Shanghai Football

Holiday's Game

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

The short soccer programme for the holidays was further curtailed by the cancellation of three matches, the postponement of the only first division game between the Clube Lusitano and the Rees turning out to be a great disappointment to many spectators at the Race Course yesterday. However, the centre of interest was focussed on the second round of the Tsz Ling Cup competition.

On Christmas Day the Junior Athletic Club created an upset by vanquishing the French Forces by one to nothing. The match between the Maccabi and the Unison Club did not materialize as the Parks authorities declared that the ground was closed for football. Both teams and the referee showed up at the appointed hour and an inspection of the field would convince anybody that the pitch was in playable condition. The contest between the Cathay Laundry and the U.S. Fourth Marines' "Bees" was called off.

Yesterday the Three Cultures Club gained the right to enter the semi-final round of the Tsz Ling Cup by trimming the Russian Athletic Association to the tune of four to nil, though in a league game the Russians were successful in beating the Culturists. In the fourth engagement of the same cup competition the Russian Regiment nosed out the Oarsmen by the odd goal in three, Medvicus scoring the deciding goal with a header from a flag-kick towards the end. Shestakoff was cautioned by the referee for dangerous play.

The Jewish Rees experienced an easy time in swamping the S. M. Police in a reserve division match by five goals to nothing. With half a dozen first division players participating in the match the Jewish side ran roughshod over the guardians of law.

The complete results are as follows:—

TSZ LING CUP

Junior Athletic Club 1; French Forces 0.

Three Cultures 4; Russian Athletic Assn. 0.

Russian Regiment 2; Oarsmen 1.

Maccabi v. Unison (called off).

1ST DIVISION

Clube Lusitano v. Rees. (called off).

RESERVE DIVISION

S.F.X. 4; P.T.H. 3.
J.R.C. 5; S.M.P. 0.

2ND DIVISION

Sokol 3; Rowing Club 2.

3RD DIVISION

Betar 3; Hotspurs 2.
Aurora 3; Judeans 2.
Cathay Laundry v. Marine "B" (called off).

Police Defeat P.T.H. 3-0

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

A small crowd saw S.M.P. strengthen their position in the second place of the First Division yesterday afternoon at the Race Course where the lawkeepers defeated P.T.H. by three clear goals in one of the most uninteresting senior games of the season. At half time, the guardians of the law were leading by 1-0.

The brand of soccer exploited by both teams was far below the First Division standard, the schoolboys being particularly poor, fielding a depleted team with Novgorodoff absent. The Police were also without the services of Willie Ward and Victal.

The score would have been much greater had the Police halves fed Chooklantzeff more, instead of passing to Jack who was woefully weak in the centre-half berth, missing several chances to score, while his passes were too weak and were oftener than not intercepted by the P.T.H. defence. Paddy Duffy, as usual, played well in the half-line and was responsible for the third goal, which he headed in from a free kick taken by Chooklantzeff.

The school forward line presented a pitiful sight yesterday, being completely disorganized, the absence of Novgorodoff and the slowness of the inside men spoiling almost every movement. Schneierson in the goal played an outstanding game, although the first goal scored against the school could have been saved. The keeper got his hands to the ball but allowed it to slip out and roll into the net.

The match was refereed by Mr. Rothschild, with Messrs. Fadeyeff and Marchetti on the lines.

S.M.P.: Bulpin, Stangaard, Woodley, Duffy, Crook, Rollz, Bader, S. Greenberg, Jack, Fonseca, Chooklantzeff.

P.T.H.: Schneierson, Logan, H. Kidby, Griffiths, Tivoniuk, Caro, Dobrenky, Kidby, Leriou, Cochran, Katemopoulos.

Depleted Rees Team in 2-2 Draw

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

The St. Francis Xavier's footballers just could not subdue the Rees and the best the Saints could do yesterday was to draw with the "Jinx" opposition by two all in a first division match at the Race Course. Despite the depleted Rees team that included no fewer than four reserve players the collegians were somewhat lucky to tie the count after the Rees had forged into the lead at two to one. Barely a minute had ticked away in the second session, when the Rees netted the leading point.

The Saints drew first blood in the 22nd minute through H. Petterson whose goal was of a flukey nature but the Rees succeeded in balancing the count at one all half a minute before interval. Immediately after resumption the Rees clinched the lead when Walley netted his second marker. Freddy Foyn was later credited with the equalizer when his drive, after striking the bottom of the upright, bounced into the net.

Credit should be given to the Rees' intermediate trio, Jack, Symons and Honniball, who covered the opposing attackers in an admirable manner and who fed their own vanguards with accurate passes. George Greenberg also deserved to be mentioned for the fine defensive work. But the forwards gave a disappointing display, there being practically no cohesion, while the two wingers were mere passengers.

The Saints were the more aggressive side in the first half and, had not the forwards wasted many opportunities by infringing the offside law, they would have established a margin that the Rees might have found difficult to overcome. In the second half the Rees gained a slight edge over the Saints.

The teams were as follow:—

S.F.X.—Ussankoff; Laskovski, Garwood; Halford, M. Greenberg, Schultz; Foyn, W. Petterson, Karolitch, H. Petterson and C. Edwards. S. R. C.—Novikov; G. Greenberg, Ryan; Jack, Symons, Honniball; Manley, Kapustin, Madar, Walley and Fensham.

Referee—Hale; linesmen—Haars and Beck.

A.S.F. Score Epic Victory

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

A large crowd, numbering a few thousands, watched Association Sportive Française create the season's greatest surprise thus far when they met and defeated Tung Hwa at the Canidrome yesterday morning, the final score being 4-1 in favour of the Legionnaires.

The French thoroughly deserved to win and had their wings been faster on the run, the score would have been double. As it is, Smith and Aprelkoff were outrun and outdribbled by the Chinese. However, they redeemed themselves—the former scoring two goals in the second half, while the latter was instrumental in increasing his side's account, by crossing some of the most perfect centres seen here for a long time.

The entire French defence played marvellously, Collet and Roussel forming one of the strongest combinations in the city, while Segalen, Pecquery and Paul Bell, aided by Jimmy Ward and Mihailoff, stemmed the Chinese attacks on more than one occasion. Mihailoff, particularly, was brilliant yesterday, tying N. Z. Lee into a knot, and at the same time helping his attacking department.

Here lay the A.S.F.'s only weakness. With Ward and Mihailoff playing more on the defence, and Smith and Aprelkoff being slow, it was up to Bossuet to worry the opposing defence. This he did in an admirable manner.

For the Chinese, only N. Z. Lee played his usual good game, the rest of the team showing up poorly, especially in the second half when Jimmy Ward scored the leading goal for his team.

The game was very rough and Referee W. T. Sung was forced to stop play twice in the second half to warn the players of both sides. Jimmy Ward and Bossuet were both hurt and appeared with patches over their eyes. The latter had to leave the field twice.

A.S.F.—Premet, Collet, Roussel, Segalen, Pecquery, P. Bell, Aprelkoff, Mihailoff, Bossuet, J. Ward, Smith.

Tung Hwa:—Zing, Chong, N. Lee, Han, Hwang, Liang, Chia, Fei, Chen, N. Z. Lee, Woo.

Referee: W. T. Sung. Line: G. Tai and G. L. Aitchison.

Lusitano Trounce J.R.C. 4-0

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

Clube Lusitano blanked the Jewish Recreation Club in the second round of the senior league yesterday afternoon at the Race Course by four goals to nothing, scoring two points in each period. The Jews had only themselves to blame for this shutout defeat as, judging from the general run of the contest in which they displayed speed, stamina and co-ordination, they could have sprung a surprise victory. Lack of punch on the part of the Jewish forwards proved to be the principal setback, for on numerous occasions they collapsed in front of the opposing citadel.

The Portuguese established their two goal lead in the initial period through misunderstandings between the Jewish fullbacks and the goalie. The opening goal was practically a gift to the Portuguese while the second goal was the result of a poor clearance from Korn. Bob Favacho contributed the third point in a solo effort and Gaan was credited with the fourth marker.

On the whole the game produced many interesting incidents and was not so one-sided as the count might indicate. M. Souza, the Portuguese custodian, pulled off several scintillating saves. L. Marcal, the veteran interporter, made his second appearance this season yesterday and gave quite a creditable showing. Oliviera, the pivotman, was a tower of strength in the Lusitano defence. Vasco Souza was responsible for many pretty movements among the forwards, though he was the only forward in the Lusitano attacking department who did not score a point.

The Jewish side effected a couple of changes in their lineup. Korn, a substitute goalie, failed to have clear understanding with his fullbacks. The Jews went about their business very well in the midfield but when they reached the opposing back area, they were at sixes and sevens. Time and time again they brought the leather within easy ranges of scoring and through dilly-dallying or erratic shooting their chances went begging.

The teams were as follows:—

Clube Lusitano:—M. Souza; Aquino, Marcal; Collaco, Oliviera, Remedios; Favacho, Rozario, Gaan, V. Souza and Barradas.

J.R.C.:—Korn; Kramer, Sommer; S. Levy, Meyer, Lambert; Defris, Stern, Arbeit, Jacob and R. Levy.

Referee: Burt. Linesmen: Sinclair and Rothschild.

Scoring Spree

Shanghai, Dec. 30.

The Sokols took one of the severest beatings when the "A" team of the A.S.P. went on a scoring spree to hand them a terrific lacing of nine goals to nil in the only "A" division game of the Ladies Hockey League held at the Course yesterday afternoon.

The Portuguese girls waded right into the thick of things from the start and while the forwards had a jolly old time shooting away at the Sokols' goal, the backs were nearly freezing from cold in their shorts, having nothing to do but clear the occasional attacks with a hard drive.

Although it was interesting to watch the winners fire away within the scoring circle for the first 10 minutes it soon became monotonous as they were enjoying the entire play. The Sokols were only able to pass the centre line about a dozen times during the entire game while no more than three or four times did they enter the dreaded "D."

It was early apparent that the Sokols, with their crop of this year's recruits and total lack of experience, were no match for the mighty A.S.P. who are now leading the race for the league title. The Portuguese were superior in every department of the game and often had the bewildered Russian ladies completely fooled with some pretty dribbling.

Mary Malinovsky worked hard for the losers but was completely overwhelmed by lack of support from the other members of her team, who appeared to have taken the field with the foregone conclusion of a certain defeat.

The wholesale massacre began soon after the initial "bully-off" when the Portuguese side rushed the ball down the field to hold a strong territorial advantage. It did not take long for the speedy left-winger, Mary Collaco, to dash in and score the opening with a well placed shot which had the Sokols' goalie well beaten.

It was only a question of time before the A.S.P. commenced to pile in goal after goal and had the players kept up to scratch they would probably have been able to amass a larger total, as the disorganized losers gave no opposition at all. Mrs. Silva was the next to score when she bundled the ball into the net after a short scrimmage.

Hilda Marcal, the proper goalkeeper for the A.S.P., was given a chance to show her prowess in the forward line yesterday when she switched positions with Thelma Collaco, and played in centre forward berth. Although she did not come up to the standard of the latter, she acquitted herself creditably by scoring once in the first half. Olga Caldas, the lanky inside right, and Marie Canavarro were also able to score in the first period.

At the half-time interval the winners had a clear lead of five goals. Soon after the resumption of the game the A.S.P. continued on their rampage and Mary Collaco contributed another point while the team's sharpshooter da Silva registered three more.

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SHANGHAI LAW REPORTS

H.M. Supreme Court

Embezzlement Charge

Before Judge P. Grant Jones
Jury Trial

REX *v.* P. J. MACKELLAR

COUNSEL: Mr. John McNeill, Crown Advocate for prosecution and Mr. H. A. Reeks for Accused.

Shanghai, Dec. 28.

Trial of P. J. MacKellar on three charges of fraudulent embezzlement opened in H. M. Supreme Court yesterday before Judge P. Grant-Jones and a jury of five persons. Mr. John McNeill, the Crown Advocate, prosecuted, Mr. H. A. Reeks appearing for the defendant. MacKellar pleaded not guilty to the charges, which were for embezzling sums of Military Yen 90, a $50 banknote and £160 over a period of months.

The jury consisted of Messrs. T. Brennan, W. T. Cromby, E. Noakes, S. A. Judah and F. C. Mallett, Messrs. H. Martin and J. H. Bailey were called but were challenged by Mr. Reeks.

Proceedings opened when Mr. C. H. Haines, who conducted the preliminary hearing of the case in the police court, read out the charges to MacKellar. He pleaded not guilty to these. Mr. McNeil then made his opening speech, in which he reviewed MacKellar's career in the American Express Company since 1935. In 1935 accused was engaged by the company as a stenographer, being promoted to the position of travel clerk in the spring of 1937 and head of the travel department later in the year. Early in 1940 an accountant of the American Express Company came to the Shanghai office to audit the books. He noticed an abnormal number of outstanding accounts.

Later this year he returned to Shanghai, and still finding these amounts outstanding became suspicious, drawing the attention of the manager to these.

He went on to outline the foundation of the charges against MacKellar. In August 1940 Mrs. E. Weinberg booked a passage to Japan, paying Military Yen 90. "This money never found its way into the cash box of the company," said the Crown Advocate. On August 16 Mr. Jones booked passages to Japan, paying a $50 banknote for the tickets. When the accused took this note to the teller in the company he merely asked for change, not referring to the purpose for which the note had been paid, continued Mr. McNeil. The third charge concerned the account of Mr. Loonis, who booked passage to Europe for his wife and daughter, paying £400 in English bank-notes for the return tickets. "But MacKellar did not pay the £400 he received to the company—he paid the company a much smaller amount in two sums, one of £86 and one of £154, making in all £240, which represented the one-way fare."

The first witness was Det.-Sergeant D. G. Jones, who testified that he arrested MacKellar on September 21 at the Central Police Station. Mr. D. S. Riggs, local manger of the American Express Company, stated that the accused was a very capable employee, and held a position of considerable authority, being permitted to extend credit to customers should he wish to. At this time the jury was sent out of court as the question arose as to whether an alleged confession by MacKellar to Mr. Riggs and others was admissible as evidence. When the hearing was resumed in the aftrenoon it was decided that the evidence was admissible, and the case proceeded before the jury.

Before the testimony concerning the alleged confession was heard, however, Mr. Albert Loonis was called to the box. He stated that in February 1939 he visited the American Express, buying two return tickets to Genoa for £400 in cash. He received tickets immediately. When the time came to use the return voucher, however, the war had broken out, and as he had booked by the Nord Deutscher Lloyd he was unable to use it. He asked for a refund of his £160 from the local office of the N. D. L. and was given this less 10 per cent. He went to the American Express to claim this extra, which represented their commission. There he saw MacKellar, who had attended to him when he bought the tickets, and spoke to him about the matter.

Mr. Riggs was recalled, stating that on September 18 he called the accused to this office and said to him "Well Mac., we have discovered you—we know how you manipulated certain accounts." MacKellar is alleged to have replied to this "What is there to say? This whole thing has been preying on my mind and the fear of exposure has kept me from sleeping for weeks." On the advice of Mr. H. D. Rodger, legal adviser to the company, MacKellar was arrested. During his cross-examination of this witness Mr. Reeks said that he felt exhausted, being unable to continue without a rest.

Mr. H. D. Rodger substantiated the evidence of the previous witness, denying that promises or threats had influenced MacKellar to make the alleged confession. Mrs. E. Weinberg was called, stating that she had bought a ticket, as mentioned. The hearing was adjourned until this morning.

Dec. 29.

A gruelling cross-examination of Mr. D. S. Riggs, manager of the American Express Company who was re-called to the witness-box featured the second day's trial yesterday before Judge P. Grant Jones and a jury of five in H.M. Supreme Court of P. J. MacKellar, former travel department manager of the company, on three charges of fraudulent embezzlement of the company's funds while in its employ.

The proceedings were adjourned until tomorrow after the calling of three witnesses, Mr. John McNeill, Crown Advocate, prosecuted while Mr. H. A. Reeks appeared for the defence.

After Chang Wei-nyi, a Chinese clerk of the company had been called to prove an accounts receivable card showing outstanding travel accounts and a travel card from which the details were furnished, Mr. Riggs was re-called by the Crown to prove the status of accused in the company. He said that MacKellar was working on a verbal agreement at a monthly salary of U.S.$135 and was under his authority. When necessary he said, it was part of MacKellar's duties to receive money for passages.

Mr. Reeks then occupied the greatest part of the session with the cross-examination of witness and questioned him at considerable length over his deposition in the Lower Court. He suggested that witness had said that accused had stated in reply to his question as to how he could have spent so much money that MacKellar replied that he had lost in gambling at the wheel and that the alleged defalcations extended over a year and a half and some of the monies were taken at high exchange rates. Counsel asked for more details regarding a statement he attributed to witness that MacKellar had admitted losing in exchange. Witness explained that what he inferred was that accused had taken money at high exchange rates, not that he was speculating in exchange.

Counsel followed up with a number of other questions and took witness to task over the exact wording of certain statements he had made in the Lower Court and at the trial. His Lordship interposed by observing that it was well-nigh impossible for a man to tell exactly the same story, in exactly the same language, twice, after an interval of two months which prompted Mr. Reeks to suggest that it was "two different stories."

Mr. Reeks then asked witness regarding the duration of an interview he had with accused concerning which he had told the Court that it lasted more than an hour. Witness pointed out that he had corrected the time from fifteen minutes to half an hour. Counsel suggested to witness that he had told the Magistrate that the conversation lasted more than an hour. Witness explained that he was under the impression that the question at the time referred to another interview, in the afternoon. He made a correction when he ascertained that the question referred to another interview.

Counsel remarked at this juncture that the value of a man's evidence is judged from the way in which it is given and went on to comment on a witness correcting his statement when His Lordship intervened and pointed out that Mr. Riggs had explained and not corrected his statement. His Lordship also remarked that counsel was wasting the time of the Court.

In reply to further questions witness confirmed what he said in the Lower Court that he had told accused on several occasions that he was casual in his work which he thought was specially true during the last two months of his employment and that accused had replied that he was ready to quit and resign from his job. Witness remarked that he laid no objection to this and added that he had had told MacKellar that he was slipping in his work and accused, "after being criticized very severely," made the observation that he was ready to resign.

Decree Absolute Granted

Before Judge P. Grant Jones

MRS. K. SMITH *v.* A. J. SMITH

COUNSEL: Mr. H. A. Reeks for Petitioner.

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Mrs. K. Smith represented by Mr. H. A. Reeks successfully applied before Judge P. Grant Jones in H.M. Supreme Court yesterday for a decree absolute dissolving her marriage to Mr. A. J. Smith.

Petitioner was granted a decree nisi on June 18, last. Respondent was absent and was not represented by counsel yesterday.

Claim for Rent

Before Judge P. Grant Jones

DING ZUNG-CHING *v.* J. S. DAVID, H. V. ROWLAND.

COUNSEL: Mr. E. T. Maitland for plaintiff.

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Judgment for $145 and $24 costs was given by Judge P. Grant Jones in H.M. Supreme Court yesterday for Ding Zung-ching, keeper of a foreign boarding house at 42/41 Carter Road, against Mr. J. S. David in a claim for $243.59 for rent and electricity charges. Plaintiff was represented by Mr. E. T. Maitland.

Mr. David admitted his indebtedness for rent, pointing out that he had never received statements from the Shanghai Power Company regarding the electricity charges although it had been agreed with plaintiff that he should receive such bills.

Defendant went on to say that he should have been charged $8.80 for October electricity consumption and not $14.10 as stated on the writ, which stated 47 cents per unit for a certain period which, Mr. David said, did not correspond to the actual charge which was 43.93 cents. He produced a slip of paper with figures which, he said, he jotted down from information he obtained at the power company. His Lordship pointed out that this was inadmissable unless defendant was going to call someone from the company to prove the document.

Mr. David then applied for relief from payment of court costs on the ground that he had written to Mr. Maitland asking for a clarification of the accounts, but had received no reply. He also referred to an action in the Chinese court which, he said, was brought against plaintiff by several of the tenants for employing threats and for leakage in the premises. Plaintiff he declared, had called in loafers and threatened to beat them all up and had cut off their water supply and threatened to cut off their light. He admitted owing plaintiff $145 and judgment was given against him for that for arrears of rent.

At the same session the court heard an action brought by the same plaintiff against Mr. H. V. Rowland. The claim was for $294.98 representing rent and electricity charges. Judgment was given against defendant for $135 for rental due with costs.

First Special Court

Book Pirate Sentenced

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

A Chinese printer was sentenced to six months' imprisonment yesterday by the First Special District Court charged with book pirating. Another printer charged with aiding and abetting the crime was found not guilty. Accused was found guilty of having pirated the "Acme, Commercial and Phrase Code" printed by the Business Equipment Corporation, an American firm in Kiangse Road. About 200 copies of the pirated books were found by the police in the possession of accused who sold them at much lower prices and caused printers of original copies to suffer heavy losses.

Theft of Furs

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

Charged with robbery in which the accused stole more than $30,000 worth of furs belonging to a big Chinese fur shop at 307 Honan Road, Hu Ting-chieh, and Chen Shwun, a former apprentice of the shop were sentenced to nine years' and two years' imprisonment respectively yesterday by the First Special District Court. Two managers of another fur shop each were fined $1,000 for having bought part of the stolen articles at a very low price.

The crime was committed on October 6 of this year when accused telephoned to the shop for examples of furs. Complying with their request, two shop assistants sent the furs to the hotel room where accused were found. The assistants were threatened and imprisoned in the room while the accused escaped with the furs. Some accomplices are still at large.

Amateur Robber

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

A worker employed by a coal shop who was recently thrown out of work became an amateur robber on Friday night in order that he might steal enough money to pay for his homeward passage. This was revealed in the First Special District Court yesterday when Chou Deh-min, a native of Anhwei was sentenced to one year and six months' imprisonment for robbery.

Chou told the judge frankly that being unable to find work, he wanted to go to his native district but that in order to provide enough money for the trip he made an imitation pistol to commit a crime. Chou was caught while trying to victimize a pedestrian in Avenue Road by the Bubbling Well police.

From the SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL GAZETTE

Shanghai Municipal Police (Specials)

Orders by the D. C. (Specials).

Promotion.—The following promotions are authorized as from the undermentioned dates:—

S/Insp. P. M. Chung to Inspector, 1/8/40.

Sgt. 15 C. G. Pommer to Sub/Inspector, 1/8/40 (on 6 months' probation).

A/S 17 M. Jhin to Sergeant, 1/8/40.

S/Insp. V. Y. Wong to Acting/Inspector i/c of 10th Division on 6 months' probation, 4/10/40.

A/S 107 J. M. Ellery to Sergeant, 6/10/40.

Sgt. 294 H. de Mienes to Sub/Inspector, 7/10/40.

A/S 11 H. Pelling to Sergeant, 7/10/40.

Sgt. 247 O. Christ to Sub/Inspector, 19/11/40 (on 6 months' probation).

A/S 980 J. D. Mooney to Sergeant, 19/11/40.

A/S 62 L. M. Buianover to Sergeant, 19/11/40.

S/C 690 S. Schultz to Assistant Sergeant 19/11/40.

S/C 154 F. W. Brandt to Assistant Sergeant 19/11/40.

S/C 166 F. P. Cruz to Assistant Sergeant 19/11/40.

Sgt. 715 P. T. Fang to Sub-Inspector on six months' probation 17/12/40.

A/S 896 T. Y. Nee to Sergeant 17/12/40.

A/S 94 J. L. Cruz to Sergeant 20/12/40.

S/C 79 A. M. Cobbett to Sergeant 20/12/40.

Staff Changes.—Supt. T. A. Buckley (Areas) to be concurrent i/c Records during Supt. F. H. Gearey's absence.

Resignation.—S/Insp. T. C. Koo is permitted to resign with effect from 17/12/40.

Transfer.—Sgt. 79 A. M. Cobbett is transferred from the Reserve to H. Q. Records as from 20/12/40.

Commendation.—A/S 71 N. S. Isaacs is commended for making an arrest on 28/11/40.

Official Letters.—(1) Copy of letter received from the Commissioner of Police re the duties performed by the Specials during the Double Tenth Anniversary.

October 11, 1940.

D.C. (Specials).

Please convey to all Ranks of the Special Police the thanks and appreciation of the Regulars for the willing public-spirited assistance rendered by your Command during the Double Tenth Anniversary. Arrangements made worked out very well and the co-operation of the Specials was again most satisfactory.

(Signed) K. M. BOURNE,
Commissioner of Police.

(2) Copy of letter received from the Commissioner of Police re the duties performed by the Specials on Sunday, October 27.

October 28, 1940.

D.C. (Specials).

Please convey to all Ranks of your Command the thanks and appreciation of the Regular Force for the able and willing assistance rendered on Sunday, October 27.

It was with regret that you were called upon on a Sunday morning but the situation demanded most thorough attention.

(Signed) K. M. BOURNE,
Commissioner of Police.

Volunteer Corps

Appointments—Commissions :—

The undermentioned is granted a commission and appointed 2nd Lt. with effect from December 19, 1940:—Acting 2nd Lt. Vladimir George Taussig.

Officers' Commissions—Renewals :—

The undermentioned Officers' Commissions are renewed under Art XI of Corps Regs:—

"C" Machine Gun Company.—Lt. E. Brundin, November 30, 1940.

Portuguese Company.—Lt. D. M. P. Gutterres, November 16, 1940.

No. 3 (Vol) Coy. "C" Bn.—Capt. C. P. Saveloff, November 16, 1940.

Reserve of Officers "B."—Lt. R. Davie, November 26, 1940; Lt. K. W. Greiner, November 27, 1940.

Resignations:—

Corps Headquarters.—Capt. L. J. Hughes, resigns his commission, December 31, 1940.

Long Service Medal—Awards :—

The undermentioned have been awarded the medal for Long Service:

2nd Lieutenant G. A. Browne.—Active: 1921-1929; 1932-1940.

Company Sergeant Major W. R. Featherstonhaugh.—Active: 1927-1939.

Company Sergeant Major H. V. Engberg.—Active: 1926-1940.

Sergeant G. W. B. Dainton.—Active: 1924-1929; 1933-1935; 1937-1940.

Lance Corporal Q. P. Sing.—Active: 1918-1925; Reserve: 1926-1928; 1937-1938; Active: 1939-1940.

Private Eduardo Marques II.—Active: 1928-1940.

The undermentioned has been awarded the 1st Bar to the medal for Long Service:—

Private J. D. Davies.—Active: 1935-1940.

Municipal Staff

Order Book Extracts, November 22-December 17, 1940.

Volunteer Corps.—Company Sergeant Major F. C. Feltz relinquishes his appointment as Corps Sergeant Major on December 24, 1940.

Mr. J. A. Tibble is appointed Corps Sergeant Major from December 25, 1940.

Police Force.—The following are appointed Probationary Sergeants on probation from the dates specified:—

A. S. Szydlowski, November 28, 1940. S. S. Chapman, December 12, 1940, S. Asanuma, T. Hamamoto, K. Hayazak, I. Ishibashi, T. Itsui, F. Kawajiri, T. Konno, T. Konuki, M. Kubota, T. Matsumoto, M. Nakajima, Y. Nakamura, M. Sakai, T. Sakai, November 1, 1940.

Mr. D. S. Veno is appointed Clerical Assistant on probation from December 15, 1940.

Probationary Sergeant A. J. Buxton is promoted to the rank of Sergeant from December 20, 1940.

Assistant Warder A. P. Posnykoff is promoted to the rank of Warder from December 20, 1940.

The resignations of Sergeant N. C. Pharazyn and Warder A. T. Dingstad are accepted, services terminating on May 19, 1941 and December 31, 1940, respectively.

The services of Mr. S. P. Onipkin, Mechanic on probation, will terminate on December 23, 1940.

Mr. L. N. Sergievsky is appointed Mechanic from December 24, 1940.

Public Health Department. — The resignations of Sisters D. E. McTier and E. A. Fairbairn are accepted, services terminating on June 13, 1941 and June 11, 1941, respectively.

Education Department.—Mr. L. C. Healey, Superintendent of Education, retires on May 31, 1941.

Finance Department.—The resignation of Mr. J. D. A. Hutchison, Chief Assistant, is accepted, services terminating on December 31, 1940.

Finance Department—Revenue Office.—Assistant Inspectors R. W. Slight and W. G. Stone are promoted to be Inspectors on probation from December 1, 1940.

Assistant Inspector J. W. Robb is promoted to be Inspector on probation from December 6, 1940.

Assistant Inspector A. Scheel is promoted to be Inspector on probation from February 1, 1941.

Mr. E. K. Berents is appointed Junior Assistant from December 9, 1940.

By Order,
G. GODFREY PHILLIPS,
Secretary and Commissioner General.

Land Commission

Mr. H. Berents, who has been the appointee of the Municipal Council on the Land Commission for the past eleven years, has been re-appointed for the Municipal year 1941/1942.

Committee Membership

The following three gentlemen have accepted the invitation of the Council to serve as Committee members during the remainder of the Municipal year.

Works Committee—Mr. B. Chih Chen.
Health Committee—Mr. F. S. Hsu.
Education Board—Mr. King Tung-ying.

THE S.M.C. Public Health Department report for the week ending December 28 shows that eighteen foreigners and 697 Chinese died during the period. Thirty-five Chinese died from tuberculosis, 55 cases being notified. Foreigners numbered four to die from the same cause. Typhoid fever claimed one foreigner and eight Chinese, while the proportion in dysentery was one foreigner dead against four Chinese. Beri-beri was the cause of one foreign death and three Chinese. Eleven foreigners and 633 Chinese died from non-communicable diseases.

SHIRTS

TOYO MURAKAMI
270 KIANGSE ROAD
SHANGHAI

OBJETS D'ART
KIMONOS PEARLS

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

The European War, December 24.

Chimara Taken by Greek

Entire Garrison Reported to Have Surrendered Following Bombardment; Italians Downed

Athens, Dec. 24.

GREEK warriors at dusk yesterday occupied Chimara, important Italian coastal stronghold in Albania, after shelling the defences on the outskirts for 48 hours, it was officially announced today.

The Greek troops had been surrounding Chimara, preparatory to the final assault, for several days and capture of the town was considered a significant advance.

The entire Italian garrison at Chimara—the 153rd Blackshirts battalion—surrendered, it was announced officially. The battalion was said to have included 800 men and 30 officers. Large quantities of war materials also were taken.

When the news of Chimara's fall was reported, crowds awaiting British units before the Greek General Headquarters at Athens began to cheer wildly—the peal of church bells gave the news to the suburbs. Athens was wild with joy.

Ten Royal Air Force fighters on Sunday intercepted and attacked Italian bombers near Argyrocastron, but it was "impossible to observe the results" as they immediately were attacked by 50 Italian fighters, the R.A.F. communique said.

Eight Italians Downed

Eight Italian fighters definitely were shot down and three others probably were grounded, the communique said. Two British planes were said missing.

The R.A.F. reported that British bombers yesterday raided the Kunovo oil wells in central Albania.

An R.A.F. communique issued at Cairo said that Italian fighters machine-gunned a British pilot as he was parachuting to earth after the air battle near Argyrocastron.

Frontier reports received from Struga, Yugoslavia, said that the Greek left-wing in the coastal sector reached the southern slope of Kjora Mountain, six kilometres north of Palasa, after heavy fighting.

In the Osum River sector, Greeks occupied the village of Gostanjani and the Italians were retreating in the direction of the village of Milova, seven kilometres to the north, the Struga reports said.—United Press.

Italians Freeze to Death

London, Dec. 24.

From Salonika come reports of hard fighting in Albania. Greek troops have come upon several Italian units cut off from retreating forces lying frozen stiff beside machine-gun posts, or dying in holes in the snow.

The fall of Chimara, important coastal city which was taken by the Greeks yesterday, had been expected in Athens. Anticipating its capture crowds gathered outside the Military Headquarters calling for General Metaxas, the Prime Minister.—Reuter.

Greeks Brave Weather

With Western Macedonian Army at Korca, Dec. 24.

The heaviest snowfall in eleven years and a dropping barometer failed to check the Greek advance in the central valleys, a survey showed today.

There has been a daily steady advance although progress has been slow since various heights must be captured one by one and transportation of materials and supplies must be carried out by foot or through the use of improvised stretchers over the frozen Mokra heights.—United Press.

Legless Flying Officer Heads Squadron

Squadron Leader D. R. S. Bader, D.S.O. has just been awarded the D.F.C. for leading his squadron in three engagements, in which his personal "bag" was six. The photograph shows him (front centre) with his squadron, who are Canadians. There are three other D.F.C.'s in the squadron.

Churchill Denounces Mussolini

British Premier Says People of Italy Never Consulted About Entering War

London, Dec. 24.

BRITISH armies will tear Italy's African Empire apart, the Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, threatened in a broadcast to Italy last night, in which he bitterly denounced Signor Mussolini as the one man who had plunged his country into the war against the wishes of his King, the Pope and the Italian people.

"We are now only at the beginning of this combat—who can say where it will end," he stated.

His broadcast mainly dealt with Italy's part in the war and Britain's relations with that country.

People Not Consulted

The people of Italy, he said, were never consulted before Italy joined the conflict, the Army in Italy was never consulted—one man alone ordered the deed.

"After 18 years of unbridled power he has led your country to a high state of ruin, one man against the proud royal family of Italy, against the Pope and all the authority of the Roman Catholic Church, against the wishes of the Italian people who have no love of this war," said Mr. Churchill. "It is one man who has ruined the land of ancient Rome and made it barbarian. There stands the villian who has wrought the deed of folly."

Referring to the excuse which Signor Mussolini would put forward for his action, Mr. Churchill said it was the old quarrel about the treaty which followed the World War and Italy's territorial demands.

"You, who were our friends and our brothers, the people of Italy, were never consulted," the Prime Minister repeated. "The Army in Italy was never consulted—no one but Hitler."

Mr. Churchill cited the circumstances in which Signor Mussolini had acted while the great battle in France was raging and Italy's neighbours were hard pressed.

"And what is the position of Italy today? A hard fight is open to you now.

"You will understand that it is one man and one man alone who has to stand up to the battery of the whole British Empire."

British Successes

He referred to the British successes in Africa and the Greek victories in Albania as samples of the troubles facing the Italian dictator.

The Prime Minister recalled the former friendship between Italy and Great Britain, spoke regretfully of the present state of affairs in which Britain was forced to fight her old ally.

"We have always been such friends, we and our grandfathers. In the last war we were yet friends. But 15 years after that war we were not friends."

Mr. Churchill said that although the relations between Italy and Britain had altered after the last war they could still walk together in peace and thousands of their peoples could work together.

"But now we are at war, now we are condemned to watch each other's ruin."

The Prime Minister's speech was read in Italian earlier in the evening.—Reuter.

Final Push on Bardia

Beleaguered Italian Garrison Harassed Under British Artillery Fire; Many Prisoners Taken

Cairo, Dec. 24.

BRITISH forces, which in a week of intense offensive operations had advanced to Bardia's doorstep, yesterday apparently were awaiting additional reinforcements before the "big push" into the Italian stronghold in north-eastern Libya.

"Our artillery continued to harass the enemy at Bardia," the General Headquarters communique said.

"Prisoners evacuated from the main Sidi Barrani (north-western Egypt) battle area now total 35,949 soldiers, including 1,704 officers. Several thousand more still are waiting to be evacuated.

"In the area west of Gallabat, our artillery has been active.

"In the northern frontier of Kenya, offensive patrolling continues.

The Royal Air Force on Saturday heavily bombed the Berka and Benina aerodromes, Italy's two main reinforcement airports near Benghasi in northern Libya, starting fires and explosions, the R.A.F. communique said.—United Press.

Lull on Libyan Front

Cairo, Dec. 24.

British forces in Libya are playing a watching game. Apart from the steady arrival of reinforcements, consolidation of positions around Bardia and intermittent shelling, there is nothing further to report, it is stated here.

Bombing operations in Africa are continuing on a big scale. Heavy attacks have been made on aerodromes. At one field bombers flew as low as 500 feet.

Considerable damage was caused at Tobruk, where the harbour and other military objectives were attacked. Planes of the South African Air Force made a heavy raid on an aerodrome in south-west Libya.

Several Italian machines were destroyed. All the British aircraft returned safely.—Reuter.

Oil Tanks Fired Near Venice

London, Dec. 24.

Royal Air Force planes flew 1,600 miles on Sunday night to destroy oil refineries at Perto Marghera a few miles from Venice.

Many oil tanks there went up in flames.—Reuter.

Italian Version

Rome, Dec. 24.

British planes on Sunday night raided the vicinity of Venice and bombed the Venetian lagoon without causing damages or injures, according to an official communique here yesterday.

An Italian torpedo plane hit and sank a British auxiliary cruiser, the communique claimed.—United Press.

Nazis Concentrate In Hungary

Budapest, Dec. 24.

German troops were concentrating at Temesvar and Arad, towns in east central Hungary, it was learned unofficially yesterday.

Their number was unspecified, but it was learned that they included between two and three divisions.

The Hungarians welcomed the concentration as a deterrent to further Rumanian excesses and generally as a means of stiffening Hungary's position in the Balkans, it was understood.

Arad was to become a new German Divisional headquarters, it was understood.

Meanwhile, the director-general of the Hungarian State Railways announced a drastically-restricted schedule after December 28 and advised persons on holiday to return home then in order that their return be guaranteed.

Some observers linked the railway order with the concentrations of German troops in Hungary.—United Press.

North Ireland Attacked By Nazi Planes

London, Dec. 24.

The dropping of bombs in Northern Ireland has been announced in an official statement by the Northern Ireland Ministry of Public Security.

"On several occasions during the past week," the statement said "enemy aircraft have been identified operating over Northern Ireland. Bombs have been dropped, all of which fell in open country. No damage was caused and there were no casualties."

The number of fatal casualties in the raid on Manchester on Sunday night was comparatively small in view of the severity of the attack, states an Air Ministry communique.—Reuter.

Light Raid on London

London, Dec. 24.

London experienced only a light raid last night as German warplanes centred their attack until early today on a north-west inland town.

The raid on the inland town was of considerable severity and some persons were believed trapped in the cellar of a building.

Houses and offices in the town were damaged and there was a number of casualties, some fatal.

The all-clear in the London area followed only a light raid. No extensive damage has been reported. Gunfire was resumed briefly at London shortly after midnight following a lull of several hours.

Earlier, gunfire was heavy and sporadic as raiders flew over the city, apparently heading inland. The London air alarm sounded at 6.30 p.m.

At Manchester a high explosive hit one shelter in which 450 persons were seeking refuge There were several casualties, it was believed.

A German bomb recently crashed near Parliament within a few yards of the House of Commons chamber, wrecking the 600-year-old St. Stephen's cloisters and doing extensive damage to other property, it was learned yesterday.—United Press.

Lull May Mean New Plot

London, Dec. 24.

The falling off of German air activity over Britain following the recent intensive attacks may mean that Herr Hitler is holding back the Luftwaffe for a brand new stroke at any time, writes Reuter's military correspondent.

The German aim is clearly to prevent Britain from becoming fully armed. Apparently the Germans hope to do this more by maiming workers physically and spiritually than by wrecking plants at which they work. Thus houses and shops suffer much more than factories.

To emphasize Mr. Churchill's warning that Britain may yet be invaded, the R.A.F. has resumed raiding Hitler's invasion bases since the Prime Minister spoke last Thursday.

Taking No Chances

Evidently the R.A.F. is taking no chance of an attempt being made during the Christmas or New Year holidays.

The danger of an attempted invasion is always present. The R.A.F. has dealt heavy blows in the past eight months and continues to do so even in weather that keeps the German Air Force aground. It is reasonably certain that the weather by night and the R.A.F. has kept the German Air Force aground for long periods.

R.A.F. Still Master

Bad visibility at ground level can be general over most of the 57 aerodromes in the Nazis' possession in Holland, Belgium and northern France. It is calculated that in such conditions only nine fields in France and five in Belgium would be safe for landing in the dark.

By day the R.A.F. retains its mastery of the sky over Britain despite every trick the Germans have introduced.

If Goering (Field-Marshal Hermann Goering, German air chief) has sent to forward bases any of his new fighters and bombers, there is no sign of them yet and without them the difficult job of invasion is rendered more difficult.—Reuter.

Legless Airman Again Decorated

London, Dec. 24.

Acting Squadron - Leader D.R.S. Bader, D.S.O. who was invalided out of the service when he lost both of his legs and who subsequently rejoined the Royal Air Force and learned to use artificial limbs to manipulate controls, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in the latest honours list.

Acting Squadron - Leader Bader was awarded the Distinguished Service Order in September last for leading his squadron in three engagements of which his personal bag was six.

His latest award was on account of his continued gallantry in leading his squadron and wing. His personal account now shows ten hostile aircraft destroyed and several more damaged.—Reuter.

Lord Halifax Welcome In U.S., Says Hull

Washington, Dec. 24.

Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, is looking forward with pleasure to working with Lord Halifax, newly appointed British Ambassador to the United States, he said yesterday.

Lord Halifax's record of accomplishments is such as to commend him and his appointment is welcomed by the Government, Mr. Hull stated.—Reuter.

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The European War, December 25.

Pope Asks for Defeat of Hatred

Five Principles Enunciated by His Holiness For Attainment of Lasting Peace

Rome, Dec. 25.

"THE solace we derive from the riches of Christmas greetings is greater because of the sad times in which we live," said the Pope, Pius XII, in a broadcast yesterday from the Vatican Palace after receiving Christmas greetings from the College of Cardinals.

Referring to the problems that will arise at the end of the war, "when people will be obliged to dedicate themselves to the task of repairing the deep-seated evil which will be their bitter social and economic heritage," the Pope declared the nations will come to realize the need for a solution of social problems in the spirit of Christianity.

"The world will leave the hard school of today with improved mind. Mankind will listen to the voice of reason and of justice. Only in such a state of mind can the world proceed to the establishment of a new order based on justice."

Saying that he wished to give "a few precepts for the conclusion of lasting peace," the Pope continued: "We must strive firstly for victory over hatred, for grave damage is inflicted upon the human soul by lack of the love of Christ, secondly, victory, over the lack of trust in international co-operation; thirdly, victory over the grim principle that force stands for right—that is the return of morality among the nations; fourthly, victory over economic divergencies; and fifthly, victory over egotism.

"We pray that the world will grow mature enough to establish a new and just social and economic order. We pray that mankind will be liberated from its tribulations.

Evils of War

Before enunciating the five peace precepts, the Pope referred to war which, with tragic and almost fatal persistence, once let loose proceeds on its way, "forgetful of the principles of humanity, indifferent to the usages of the conventions of war, and goes to such extremes that an age less troubled than ours will one day note its events as among the saddest and darkest of the world's history.

"Our thoughts run forward anxiously to the moment when the sad chronicles of many sufferings, of minds in anguish, of the wounded, prisoners and refugees, downtrodden, famished, fainting and weeping, come in their entirety to light. But what we know at present is already sufficient to oppress and tear the heart.

"Among the many misfortunes arising from this conflict, the misfortunes of prisoners of war continue to grieve us. Although our aims for relief of material and moral distress of many prisoners have been futile in some countries our efforts have not everywhere been in vain. We were able to relieve the burden of Polish prisoners and of Italian prisoners and internees, especially in Egypt, Australia and Canada.

Christmas Benediction

"Nor was it our desire that the Holy Feast of Christmas should dawn on the world without our conveying some definite manifestation of our encouraging remembance and benediction to prisoners through the medium of our representatives."

Recalling his Christmas message one year ago, the Pope stated that certain principles were regarded as essential prerequisites of peace which would conform to the principles of equity, justice and honour, and would

Pope Pius XII

thus be endured. The same proposals had lost none of their intrinsic truth and conformity to reality and their moral force.

"There emerges ever more clearly a universal opinion which contends that both pre-war Europe as well as its political structure are now undergoing a process of transformation of such a nature as to signal the dawn of a new era. Europe and its state of states will not be as they were before. Something that is better guaranteed, more sound, freer and stronger must replace the past order and eliminate its defects, weaknesses and deficiencies."—Reuter.

Warmly Received in Vichy

Vichy, Dec. 26.

French official circles yesterday gave a warm reception to Pope Pius XII.'s Christmas speech, which one spokesman said "tallies absolutely with the French point of view."

Although jammed by a station which, according to French operators, was situated not far from Vatican City, the bulk of the speech was heard in France fairly clearly.

The Pope's reference to the right of small nations to exist with equal rights alongside strong states was "entirely in accordance with ancient French tradition," the spokesman said.

"We cannot but wholeheartedly concur in His Holiness' hope that there may be a European new order based on morality and the law of Christ.

"We have a sincere desire to see international law be inspired by the teachings of Christ, which, as the Pope said, must expel hatred and reasons for hatred from relations between nations."—United Press.

Victory Ahead King Declares

London, Dec. 26.

The dangers and difficulties confronting Britain would be overcome with the help of God and the world would be made a better place in which to live when peace is restored, declared the King in a Christmas broadcast to the Empire last night.

"At this time all of us are in the front line," the King said.

He praised the courage and fortitude he had seen demonstrated by people on every side and the "splendid good fellowship" they were showing in adversity.

He spoke a word of comfort to members of families separated by the war the many sons taken from their homes, the many children separated from parents and friends who will be lonely during the Christmas season.

He expressed a hope that they would be more happy in the year to come.

The King urged the people to do their best to help the fighting services in the war. In the new year it would be the task of all Britons throughout the Empire to continue their co-operation in the successful prosecution of the war, he added.

In the United States there were many staunch friends and organizations giving assistance to Britain, his Majesty said.

The world would be a better place and Christmas days would be happy again when peace is restored, he promised. "I wish all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

"Path to Victory"

London, Dec. 26.

King George VI, in a Christmas broadcast to the British Empire, said "we may look forward to the new year with sober confidence." We have surmounted a grave crisis," he said.

"We do not under-rate the dangers and difficulties which confront us still, but take courage and comfort from the successes our fighting men and Allies won at heavy odds on land, sea and air.

"The future will be hard, but our feet are planted on the path to victory and with the help of God we shall make our way to justice and peace."—United Press.

Danes Hear King's Words

London, Dec. 26.

The German-controlled Danish wireless last night gave an unusually full summary of King George's broadcast. Several passages of the speech were quoted verbatim such as the King's statement that inhabitants of bombed cities are facing their ordeal in a way of which they can be proud.—Reuter.

Christmas Comes to War Torn World

Washington, Dec. 25.

President Roosevelt, in a Christmas Eve radio address to the nation from beneath Washington's community Christmas tree, said that "the world's Christmas cannot be merry, but can be a happy one if men and women resolve and strive for a better world in the spirit of Christ."

President Roosevelt and his wife on Christmas Day attended community church services and then entertained at a Christmas luncheon for five war refugees—members of the Norwegian Royal Family, namely Prince Olaf, Crown Princess Martha and their three children.

The Norwegian family now are residents in nearby Maryland.

The Roosevelts held their annual family Christmas dinner last night at the White House.—United Press.

Petain Pardons Dissidents

Vichy, Dec 25.

As a Christmas gesture, Marshal Philippe Petain, French Premier, has pardoned dissident officers and men captured at Dakar during the de Gaullist attempt to land troops there, the Government announced yesterday.

The coldest Christmas in 16 years brought abundant snowfall to the Mediterranean province, and intense suffering to poor and refugeess because of under-nourishment and lack of coal and wood.—United Press.

Traditional Christmass Masses

Vatican City, Dec. 25.

Pope Pius XII today celebrated the traditional three Midnight Christmas Masses in his private chapel. Personal friends and relations attended.—United Press.

Hitler With Troops

Berlin, Dec. 25.

Chancellor Hitler was spending Christmas with German soldiers at the front the same as last year, D.N.B., official German news agency, said yesterday.—United Press.

Raider's Message

Berlin, Dec. 26.

Admiral Dr. H. C. Erich Raeder, Commander-in-Chief of the German Navy, sent a Christmas message to all the members of the German Navy. He said: "I thank you for your successes."—Reuter.

Malta Cheers London

Malta, Dec. 26.

Malta residents held Christmas religious services in ancient tunnels which had been converted into air raid shelters.

Residents also celebrated the Yule with an all night dance in the tunnels and at midnight gave three cheers for London's beleaguered population.—United Press.

Mr. Churchill Promises "Vigorous Operations"

London, Dec. 26.

"We shall seize every opportunity on all fronts to press on to victory with that same vigour shown in the Middle East and shall enter the coming year resolutely and confidently," stated the Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, replying to a good will Christmas message from the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Mr. Churchill warmly eulogized the heroic exploits of New Zealand's sailors, soldiers and airmen.

"We have recently had a chance to show our mettle in the Middle East where so many of New Zealand's sons are playing their part," he said. "We can now look to the future with confidence."

In his message the New Zealand Prime Minister expressed boundless admiration for the "heroic attitude of the British people and heartfelt sympathy for the sufferings and privations which they are enduring with such characteristic fortitude."—Reuter.

R.A.F. Attacks Coastal Cities Before Christmas

London, Dec. 25.

The Royal Air Force on Monday night attacked the coastal cities of Boulogne, Dunkirk and Ostend and industrial targets in the Rhineland, including Ludwigshaven, the Air Ministry communique said yesterday.—United Press.

Berlin, Dec. 25.

British planes on Saturday and Sunday bombed three Dutch villages, said a despatch from Amsterdam carried by D.N.B. the official German news agency.—United Press.

Peaceful Christmas In Britain, Reich

London, Dec. 26.

While there was no indication of any understanding having been reached about a Christmas truce in the air, the R.A.F. left Germany alone over Christmas, and the only German aerial activity over Britain was the appearance of a few German planes over the Orkneys and off the Scottish coast during daylight yesterday.

It is not yet known whether weather conditions were responsible for the peace and quiet enjoyed at the second Christmas of the war.

British bombers carried out no operations on the night of December 24 and during Christmas Day, while the alert was not sounded in London—the last alert in the London area was on Monday night.

One German plane, however, was brought down in the Orkneys by fighters of the Fleet Air Arm co-operating with the R.A.F. Four members of the crew were captured.

The Army yesterday forgot the serious business ahead for a brief spell to have its biggest "blow-out" of the year, a feature of which was a turkey, pork and beef dinner, while those who passed Christmas in London's tubes spent their time in carol singing and gaiety in gaily decorated underground shelters.

Boys and girls laid out stockings on Christmas eve on station platforms, where Santa Claus found and filled them.

In one tube shelter on Christmas night, girls in party frocks danced with their partners to music from a violin and piano after presents had been distributed to the children from a big Christmas tree.—Reuter.

German Instructions

Washington, Dec. 25.

The German Air Force had been instructed not to bomb Great Britain today and tomorrow unless "compelled to retaliate" for British attacks on Germany, the German Embassy said yesterday.—United Press.

Christmas Messages To British Forces

London, Dec. 26.

Christmas messages to British forces from three Cabinet Ministers in charge of the fighting services were broadcast yesterday. To the Navy, Mr. A. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, said: "Your efforts have charted the course to victory. Stick to it knowing that what you are doing will ensure triumph for freedom and liberty for ourselves and the generations to come to enjoy a good old-fashioned Christmas in peace and comfort."

Captain David Margesson, newly appointed Secretary of State for War, said: "The success of our armies against Italian forces in Libya is a good omen for the future when the moment comes for the British Army once again to measure its strength against our main enemy.

"I know and you know that it will not found wanting. We all know what we are fighting for. Our cause is just and righteous and with God's help victory is assured."

Sir Archibald Sinclair, Secretary of State for Air, said: "In every country where the words valour and chivalry still have their old meaning you have heartened doubters and confirmed the faith in our victory. We have kept our heads in defeat and we shall keep our heads now in victory, for our task is less than half completed. There are great achievements behind us and great tasks in front of us as we enter the new year. May it be a happy and victorious year for the R.A.F."—Reuter.

Duke of Windsor Tells U.S. of His Confidence

New York, Dec. 26.

The Duke of Windsor, speaking by radio from Nassau, where he lives as Governor of the Bahamas, yesterday hailed the peace in the new world and prayed that "the end of hostilities will be not too far distant."

"...Britain again has become entangled in strife and quarrels in the old world, where the teachings of the church and the message of Christmas have not been heeded...

"We in this colony, which is engaged in Britain's conflict, at the same time are confident in the strength and character of our race and that their endurance and tenacity will bring this tragic war to a successful conclusion...

"Our admiration for the gallantry of the fighting forces knows no bounds, but our special sympathy goes out to all who have become innocent victims of modern warfare."—United Press.

King Tours Bombed Areas of London

His Majesty the King, who spoke to the Empire on Christmas Day and stressed his confidence in a final British victory, is seen here inspecting bombed areas in Central London recently. The picture shows the King chatting to residents in the area during his tour.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS (continued)

The European War, December 26.

Greeks Almost in Valona

Troops Only 15 Miles from Seaport; Whole Coastal Region Occupied; Italians Routed

Athens, Dec. 26.

GREEK troops dedicated Christmas to the continuance of attacks on the Albanian front. They captured three villages, many prisoners and war materials within 15 miles of Valona, important Italian base on the Adriatic, reports reaching here said.

The Greeks have occupied the whole coastal region and road to Chimara (Himara) from Alshisharanda, authoritative sources reported.

The Greeks several days ago cleaned up Italian units pocketed at Porto Palermo, informed sources said they understood. Porto Palermo previously was held by the Greeks, but had been recaptured by the Italians.

The roadway from Porto Palermo northward to Chimara had been heavily shelled from the sea, rendering it impassable in many places and requiring riding horseback the final nine miles to Chimara, reports from Chimara said.

Meanwhile, British raiders staged a surprise aerial attack on the Valona aerodrome on Tuesday, bombed grounded planes and hangars, machine-gunned the area from a low level and departed with the "aerodrome enveloped in smoke," a Royal Air Force communique issued in Cairo yesterday said.

"A cruiser which put up a heavy anti-aircraft barrage was machine-gunned from a low-height," the communique added.

The Columbia Brodcasting corporation report quoting the Athens radio as saying Greek troops had carried out "a lightning attack and captured some Italian fortified positions" near Elbasan in north-eastern Albania.

Swiftly-advancing Greek forces last night were said to be only 15 miles from Valona, important Albanian seaport, as Athens, blacked-out, resounded with Christmas greetings from the Fleet's guns.

Greek troops have occupied the whole region in the neighbourhood of the coast road to Chimara (Himara) from Agrisarana and Porto Palermo, United Press Staff Correspondents reported yesterday.—United Press.

Northerly Advance

Sofia, Dec. 23.

Greek forces yesterday advanced from Chimara (Himara), Albanian coastal town, toward Valona, important seaport, and captured three villages, taking many prisoners and considerable war material, Greek radio reports heard here said.—United Press.

Fall of Valona Near

Salonika, Dec. 25.

Valona, important southern Albanian seaport, will fall into Greek hands within a few days, Mr. Henry Gorrell, United Press Staff Correspondent, predicted yesterday on the basis of conversations with military experts and a personal tour of battle fronts.—United Press.

Valona Bombed by R.A.F.

London, Dec. 25.

Units of the British Mediterranean fleet yesterday bombarded Valona as units of the Fleet air arm bombed and sank two merchantmen, the Exchange Telegraph news agency reported today from Alexandria.—United Press.

Italians Routed

Struga, Yugoslavia, North Shore Lake Ohrida, Dec. 25.

Greek troops on the Kjora Mountain slopes yesterday routed the Italians, who were retreating in disorderly fashion north-eastward toward Lepenica, frontier reports reaching here said.—United Press.

"Heads Held High"

Athens, Dec. 26.

The Greeks have made fresh advances driving towards Valona, the official spokesman states today. He adds that the Italians are retreating north-west from Chimara. The Greeks also continued their advance to the north-east of Chimara and occupied new positions.

Further inland a point of great strategic importance has fallen to the Greeks operating to the north and east of Premeti.

An official, communique states that during local fights "we made a number of prisoners and captured eight guns and numerous material."

The Greeks can celebrate Christmas with their heads held high for the war they have been forced into as a result of Italy's aggression "is not a war of conquest but of deliverance," writes Mr. Vekiarellis, Director of the Athens News Agency, in the newspaper "Athens."

He refers to Signor Mussolini as an "oppressor who knows nothing of pardon and love." The enemy "hypocritically calls himself a Christian yet he is striking at Christ with the same dagger with which he is striking Greece, for he who breaks Christ's law of peace stabs Christ himself.—Reuter.

British Prepare for Bardia

Italians Attempt to Relieve Pressure on Beleaguered Garrison by Dive-Bombing Attacks

Cairo, Dec. 26.

BRITISH preparations to smash Bardia, Italian stronghold in north-eastern Libya, "were being rushed forward steadily despite renewed air activity in support of the beleaguered garrison," the General Headquarters communique said yesterday.

The Italians were attempting to relieve the pressure on Bardia by dive-bombing attacks on British concentrations, but military circles believed that it was unlikely British plans would suffer the slightest delay and said Bardia would be dealt with "in due time."

The only result of the raids was odd casualties, it was learned.

British bombers raided Italian aerodromes at Tmiti and Azala in the Western Desert, a Royal Air Force communique said.

Italian bombers, escorted by fighting planes, raided Sollum," causing slight damage and a number of casualties," the communique declared.

British patrols west of Gallabat again inflicted casualties on Italian forces, the General Headquarters communique said.—United Press.

Exchange of Artillery Fire

Cairo, Dec. 26.

Spasmodic artillery fire from both sides and unavailing Italian air attacks against British troop concentrations were the only activities of note around Bardia on Christmas Day.

Dive-bombing attacks were launched against British forces massing against the strategic Italian base, but front-line observers state that these attacks were mostly ineffective, causing few casualties.

Throughout the Western Desert, British padres held simple Christmas services for troops.

The latest R.A.F. communique says British bombers raided aerodromes at Gazala, in the Western Desert, on Christmas eve and early Christmas Day. All bombs fell well in the target areas, but the extent of the damage could not be observed.

British fighters maintained active patrols throughout Tuesday, but no Italian aircraft were engaged.

Another raid on Valona, Italian base in Albania, was carried out. The harbour and town were covered by a low cloud, through which British aircraft dived, taking the enemy by surprise.

While a number of raiders were bombing enemy aircraft on the aerodrome, others attacked hangars and buildings and followed up with low-dived machine-gun attacks.—Reuter.

R.A.F. Bombs Assab

Aden, Dec. 26.

The Royal Air Force on Monday night bombed Assab, their objective being the pumping station. All their bombs fell within the target area.—Reuter.

G.O.C.'s Message

Cairo, Dec. 26.

General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of British Forces in the Middle East, in an order of the day to his troops today says that operations are not ended and that further efforts with a similar spirit will bring further successes.

He thanks all ranks and says that the success so far was due to careful preparation, good administration and hardy training behind the lines as well as in the theatre of war.

Only troops trained to the highest moral and physical pitch and led with a dashing confidence could have carried through these operations so swiftly and successfully and at such small cost.—Reuter.

Bombed in Last War, Bombed in This

The huge hole in the road in the Strand where a bomb dropped during a recent air raid over Central London. It fell near the Gaiety Theatre, which was bombed in the last war. In the background is the church of St. Mary-le-Strand.

Russia Leads in Submarines

Number Exceeds Germany's U-Boat Strength of 120 by About Fifty; Red Fleet Generally Weak

Washington, Dec. 26.

SOVIET Russia has built the world's greatest submarine fleet, estimated to total 171 vessels, according to unofficial information obtained by the United States Navy Department.

This exceeds Germany's huge underseas fleet by more than fifty vessels. The Nazi submarine force, estimated at 120 craft, is the second largest in the world.

No estimate is available on the number of submarines under construction in Russia but recent reports indicate it is considerable. Soviet officials in public statements from time to time have expressed Russia's determination to expand greatly the Red fleet.

In all other categories, however, Russia is distinctly a second-rate naval power, although the sprawling and expanding Communist state borders on at least six seas or oceans and is the neighbour of strong and aggressive naval powers.

Only 3 Old Battleships

According to the best available information, Russia has three old battleships, all built in 1911 and said to be of little value as fighting units. They are slow, carry relatively light armour and have extremely limited radio.

Three new dreadnaughts, of 35,000-tons each, are under construction or are projected. Little has been heard of these vessels, however, and reliable quarters doubt if much, or any, progress has been made on them.

Other Russian naval units afloat include nine cruisers, one aircraft carrier and 67 destroyers. A few other vessels in these categories are building.

A comparison of Red naval tonnage with that of other powers does not tell the whole story of Russia's weakness at sea.

Strength Divided

Because of the Soviet Union's great size, her naval strength must be divided. The bulk of her Red fleet must be kept in the Pacific to offset, as much as it can, the great naval forces of Japan which has the world's third largest navy, boasting ten battleships afloat and an estimated eight more building.

The Island Empire has more than twice as many destroyers as Russia, nearly five times as many cruisers and many more smaller craft. In addition, Japan has seven aircraft carriers to Russia's one.

The Soviets also have been compelled to keep some warships in the Black Sea and it is probable that this force will have to be increased as a result of Germany's acquisition of bases there. Shortly after Rumania fell into the Axis orbit it was reported that Hitler was sending small submarines by rail to new German bases on Rumanian territory along the Black Sea.

German Fleet Stronger

Other Red fleet units must be maintained in the Baltic. With the absorption of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia into the Soviet Union recently, Russia obtained a new and relatively long naval frontier which must be guarded.

In the Baltic, as in the Black Sea, Russia has the small but modern German navy to contend with. Germany's surface craft are quantitatively and qualitatively, far superior to Russia's, despite war losses. Germany's six battleships are relatively new, and two more are on the way.

Russia's need for a large fleet is, of course, not as great as Britain's or Japan's, which depend on overseas areas for the bulk of their foodstuffs and raw materials and must keep open long communication lines to survive.

However, the need for a naval force far superior to anything that the Soviets now possess is tacitly admitted by the Moscow government itself in frequent declarations by its spokesmen that the fleet must be increased greatly.—United Press.

Queen Wilhelmina Broadcasts

London, Dec. 26.

"Having followed the course of the war with tense attention I believe myself to be in a position to tell you that in recent months the prospects have been improved and we face the future with even greater confidence than before," said Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands in a broadcast yesterday.—Reuter.

Dissension Stirring In France

Vichy, Dec. 25.

M. Marcel Deat, Deputy and editor of the "Paris Œuvre," one of the pioneers in the present national revolution and arch-opponent of the war, had begun a vigorous campaign in his Paris paper against what he called "Vichy reactionaries," it appeared yesterday.

He also has levelled his fire against the project of Marshal Philippe Petain, French Premier, to create a National Consultative Assembly, which M. Deat called "a revolution from above."

Before war was declared, M. Deat aligned himself with M. Pierre Laval, recently-ousted Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister, M. Adrien Marquet, rightist leader, M. Georges Bonnet, former Foreign Minister, and others of a small group which opposed the war. He stirred up the angry protests of nationalists for his "Œuvre" editorial, "Die for Danzig?" May 4, 1939.

In the editorial, he warned that France had no war spirit and no enthusiasm for the cause of Danzig.

Just before M. Laval was unseated from the Cabinet, M. Deat vigorously attacked Marshal Petain and the entire Cabinet with the single exception of M. Laval from the Paris radio, which is under German control.

Since M. Laval's overthrow, M. Deat has been among the few who rallied editorially to the ex-Vice-Premier. His present hostility to Marshal Petain's "revolution from above" is his first manifestation since the Laval affair, during which M. Deat was arrested for two hours at Paris by the order of General Fornel de la Laurencie.—United Press.

"Collapse" Not in British Dictionary

Washington, Dec. 25.

Mr. Arthur B. Purvis, head of the British Purchasing Mission in the United States, said yesterday that the next 90 days were crucial to England, but scoffed at any suggestion that Great Britain might collapse. "That word is not in our dictionary," Mr. Purvis said. —United Press.

British Army Will Have Decisive Role to Play

London, Dec. 24.

In the final reckoning with Herr Hitler the Army will have a decisive part to play, Mr. Anthony Eden, newly appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, declared in a message to General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, on leaving the War Office to assume his new post.

To all ranks Mr. Eden expressed deep gratitude for loyal, cheerful and unfailing help during a period which had no parallel in history. Referring to the Egyptian campaign Mr. Eden said the brilliant victory of the Army of the Nile was the first reward of much patient effort no less than of dash and daring. The quality of the Army of the Middle East to command success had been proved in Africa as one day it would be proved in Europe.

Admiral Darlan Sees German Official

Vichy, Dec. 26.

Admiral François Darlan, Navy Minister, saw a high German personality in Paris yesterday, carrying a message of hope and assurance that France would continue to respect the collaboration pledge of Marshal Philippe Petain, French Premier, with Chancellor Hitler.

Marshal Petain publicly has declared that this pledge was not affected by the recent removal of M. Pierre Laval as Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister.—United Press.

Fleet Commander Given Ovation at Malta

Malta, Dec. 26.

Great crowds cheered the arrival here of the British Fleet, including the flagship of Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, who met spontaneous ovations wherever he went.

Scenes of wild enthusiasm were witnessed when he made a tour of inspection and his car was frequently stopped by cheering crowds.

Thanking the people Sir Andrew said, "I have done nothing to deserve all these cheers. You should cheer yourselves."—Reuter.

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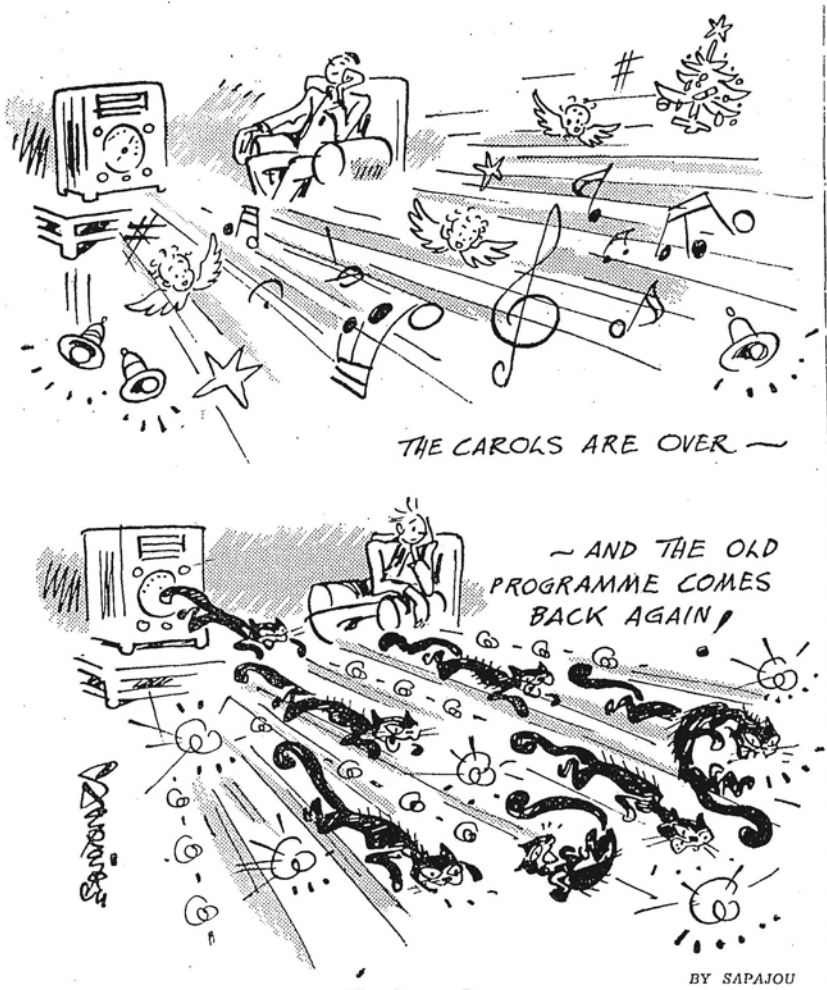

We Carry On

The European War, December 27.

Greeks Gain New Ground

Italian Disaster in Albania Worse Than Caporetta, Says Officer; Greeks Ignore Cold

Athens, Dec. 27.

GREEK troops are reported to have entered Lin, important point on the road to Elbasan, their next big objective on the North Albanian front.—Reuter.

Athens, Dec. 27.

Greek forces advanced on every front and in one northern sector captured ten villages, official reports said yesterday.

"Local successful operations allowed our troops to advance and capture enemy positions," the War Ministry communique said.

"Prisoners and important war materials fell into our hands." An Athens radio report heard in Sofia said that "advance of Greek troops continues along the entire front."

Along the coast, our troops captured several strategic heights, despite snowstorms and a blizzard. West of the River Drin we pushed back Italian forces. Further northward we captured ten new villages, taking many prisoners."

Heavy fighting had been resumed on the northern Albanian front, according to "Pravda," in Belgrade. One frontier correspondent reported that "despite the bad weather and snowstorms, small Greek and Italian detachments clashed throughout the day, with aviation of both sides taking advantage of every bright interval to bomb enemy positions."—United Press.

"Worse Than Caporetto"

With Greek Forces on the Coastal Sector, Dec. 2.

Captured Italian officers yesterday told the United Press that Italy's disastrous Albanian campaign was worse than the World War defeat at Caporetto.

"This campaign is a worse defeat than Caporetto," said Major Cambolio, an Italian veteran of the Libyan campaign of 1911-12. "The retreat is largely due to breakdown of the Italian transport system."

Lieutenant-Colonel Brosini said he and most other Italian officers regarded the Greek campaign as a "blunder since it threw the Greeks into British arms, which might decide the whole outcome of the war."

Major Cambolio said that since the first days of the Anglo-Greek bombardment, Italian troops repeatedly had been left without food, while the soldiers' clothing was inadequate against the terrible cold.

Field radios, which reported a steady Greek advance in the Klisura and Tepeleni regions, also said that five Italian officers and 65 soldiers, captured Wednesday west of the Drinos river, were from five different Italian divisions and three different military service branches.

Capture of such diverse soldiers indicated the lack of Italian cooperation, Greek officers told me.—United Press.

Greeks Undaunted By Cold

London, Dec. 27.

On the Albanian front the Greek forces have been fighting bitterly in fog, storm and cold weather with Spartan fortitude, it was declared in Athens last night.

The Greek communique said that successful operations were carried out, as a result of which Greek troops have occupied some enemy posts.

Many prisoners were captured and a large quantity of war materials fell into Geek hands. The Italians have been forced back to the north and north-west of Chimara, and during the night abandoned points of the greatest strategic importance *in this area, the communique added.* —Reuter

Rome Claims Attack Broken

Rome, Dec. 27.

Greece is completely cut off from the outside world "La Stampa" said yesterday in a front page editorial threatening Turkey "it would be useless to attempt to supply Greece, whose ports are under Italian air control."

"Greece, however, still is receiving scanty supplies from Yugoslavia, which during the past year was capable of supplying Greece with barely 3.3 per cent of its national food requirements," the "La Stampa" *said, "while Rumania,* which last year furnished Greece with 9.5 per cent of its national necessities, this year will limit all traffic with Greece owing to the latter's unfriendly stand toward the Axis powers."—United Press.

R.A.F. Bags 37 Italian Planes

London, Dec. 27.

Fighters of the Royal Air Force, accustomed to mountainous topography and climate, have played a part in support of the Greeks in Albania, it is learned here.

These machines arrived at the Greek front from the North-West Frontier of India on November 18 and the very same day destroyed nine Italian aircraft, it was revealed in an Air Ministry bulletin.

Heavy casualties, panic and confusion were caused when three columns of Italian infantry and mules were attacked near Elbasan on November 28 were destroyed, three more were destroyed on December 2, eight more on December 4, two on December 21 and eight on December 21.

In addition to 37 Italian aircraft certainly destroyed, a number of others "probably" have been destroyed, against a total loss of one British aircraft.

The bulletin concludes with a tribute to the Greek air force for the skill and courage which has evoked the admiration of their British comrades.—Reuter.

R.A.F. Complimented

Athens, Dec. 27.

In a Christmas message to the air officer commanding the British air forces in Greece, General Papagos, the commander of the Greek troops, sent his hearty wishes for a happy issue of the common struggle to the *British air forces* "who are heroically and with self-denial fighting by the side of the Greek army defending its fields and hearths."—Reuter.

R.A.F. Drops Christmas Packages on Corfu

London, Dec. 27.

British planes flying at a height of 100 feet dropped five hundred Christmas parcels on the island of Corfu for the Greek residents.—Reuter.

Britain's Iron Ring on Bardia

All Italian Hope of Relief by Land Declared Vanished; Beleaguered Garrison

London, Dec. 27.

BRITAIN'S iron ring of mechanized units nearer to the outer defence works of Bardia as a steady flow of reinforcements strengthened the lines around Italy's besieged north-eastern Libyan stronghold, reports from the African front said today.

With their retreat cut off by British sea and land forces, Italian forces defending the fortress were compelled to sit and helplessly watch the British troops moving into position for a decisive battle, the reports added.

The Italians, the reports revealed, attempted to relieve pressure on Bardia by dive-bombing attacks on British troop concentrations. Official quarters, however, said that the British suffered only the slightest casualties and damage, by the Italian efforts.

All Italian hope of relief by land was believed to have vanished when the British cut the vital coastal supply road to Bardia, the despatches from the front stated.

While British naval guns were trained on the shoreline, planes of the Royal Air Force hovered over the area were claimed to have maintained air superiority over the Italians.

The last official communique today reported there had been "no change in the situation at Libya."—United Press.

With British Forces Besieging Bardia, Dec. 27.

British artillery throughout Christmas Day hammered the beleaguered city of Bardia, Italian stronghold in north-eastern Libya and next important objective of Britain's North African campaign.

There also were occasional infantry engagements in "No Man's Land."

The British had at least 250 guns massed in a semi-circle around the port, including many fresh batteries.

The Fleet's guns, meanwhile were trained on Bardia from the sea.

Christmas Unheeded

The Italians were beaten back farther upon Bardia, but were resisting stubbornly under brilliant sunshine, chilled by a cold wind.

The rival armies were heedless of the Feast of the Nativity as the British sought to sweep Italian defences into the sea and were confident that the end was only a question of days.

A United Press correspondent passed up the line through dust and shimmering sunlight on the coastal road leading to Bardia and saw what seemed to be endless columns of tanks, fresh troops and guns, many hauled by newly captured Italian lorries.—United Press.

East of Kassala Raided

Cairo, Dec. 27.

British forces, apparently considering the Italian stronghold at Bardia in north-eastern Libya a highly-important objective, yesterday continued to move up reinforcements and guns for an ultimate intensive attack.

Meanwhile, on the Sudan frontier, a British patrol successfully raided Italian forces east of Kassala and inflicted a number of casualties on them.—United Press.

Final Attack Preparing

London, Dec. 27.

The shelling of Bardia continues and is increasing in its intensity: British and Dominion troops are surrounding the port and are taking up positions for an attack, according to reports reaching London today.

Details of the part played by Indian troops in the victory of the western desert have now been revealed. It is known that in the first days of the campaign Indian divisions marched 30 miles in one day to take up a position close to an Italian camp, which was successfully attacked in cooperation with British armoured units. Indian troops took part in several other engagements. In one of them they helped to trap and take prisoner 3,000 or 4,000 men of a Blackshirt division and of Libyan troops.—Reuter.

Wire Cut; Nazis Fine City Million Francs

Vichy, Dec. 27.

German authorities have fined a French city, which was badly damaged by the German attack last June, 1,000,000 francs because a single strand of a German army telephone wire was cut, it was officially disclosed yesterday. Efforts to discover the saboteur having failed, the Germans fined the municipality.—United Press.

Town Said Orleans

London, Dec. 27.

The Germans have imposed a fine of Francs 1,000,000 on the city of Orleans, France.—Reuter.

U.S. Senate Drive For Peace Effort

Washington, Dec. 27.

Senators Rush D. Holt, West Virginia Democrat, and Arthur Vandenberg, Michigan Republican, yesterday joined the budding Senatorial drive urging the White House to attempt to bring about world peace.

Senators Millard Tydings, Maryland Democrat, and Burton K. Wheeler, Montana Democrat, previously this week urged that President Roosevelt launch a peace effort.

Senator Holt, in a radio broadcast, asked Mr. Roosevelt, "Why can't you use your powerful office" to bring representatives of warring nations around the peace table to discuss their differences?

He urged the President to direct the foreign policy of the United States toward peace rather than war.

Senator Vandenberg, in an interview, gave the impression that he believed the time was propitious for a peace move.

U.S. Inquiry Urged

Senator Vandenberg predicted that the war ultimately would end in a negotiated peace.

"An American inquiry addressed to all concerned would be particularly effective in this direction if it was generally understood that refusal to accept a just and realistic formula might result in our own powerfully enlarged activity," he declared.

The Senator said he opposed repeal of the Johnson Act, which makes it illegal for the Government to extend credits to nations which have not fully paid the interest on their World War debts, and also of the Neutrality Act.

He said he was against "sending American ships into belligerent zones or providing American convoys."

President Roosevelt's proposal to loan or lease war material to Great Britain was "too nebulous," he said and refused to comment further on it.

He said, however, that he was "opposed to defeating statutes by subterfuge."—United Press.

Germans Release Two French Generals

London, Dec. 27.

Two French generals who are to "lead and organize Vichy's struggle against French forces in France's colonial empire" have been released by the German authorities, according to a statement issued by Gen. Charles de Gaulle's headquarters in London last night.

The two men, Gen. Carles and Gen. Falvy, were taken prisoner in the battle of France. "Their liberation," the statement says, "shows clearly the interest Germany has in this struggle."

Gen. Carles is reported to be replacing Gen. Burer as Inspector-General of Vichy's colonial troops and General Falvy is believed to be taking over the command of forces in French Nigeria. The present commander is Gen. Cornet, who was appointed to the post only two months ago.—Reuter.

Nazis Reported Entering Italy

Belgrade, Dec. 27.

Three divisions of German troops entered Italy on Sunday and Monday by railway via the Brenner Pass, a well-informed source said yesterday.

There were two mechanized divisions and one infantry division, consisting of Alpinists, believed to be destined for Albania, the source said.

This was the first mass transportation of German troops to Italy, although small groups of technicians had entered Italy during the past two months.—United Press.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS (continued)

London Passes Respite

Moonless, Foggy Weather Believed Responsible For Continuance of Christmas Truce

London, Dec. 27.

THE unofficial Christmas air truce passed its 80th hour today without a single German plane appearing over London.

Air experts believed that the moonless, foggy weather over the English Channel was responsible for the continuance of the truce.

No special Christmas leave, however, was granted to any British troops—the contrary, extra vigilance was maintained because of invasion rumours.

There has been no British bombing of western Europe since the Rhineland and German invasion ports in France were attacked on Monday night. This fact was found in the evidence that German, French and Dutch radio stations broadcast programmes throughout Thursday night.

Berlin reports claimed that British planes bombed German airports, harbour facilities and garrisoned towns in France Christmas and Thursday nights.

No Chances Taken

Despite the previous two raidless nights, large numbers of Londoners still sought their favourite bomb-proof shelters last night.

The largest crowds, however, since the start of the aerial attack began took advantage of the unofficial truce and flocked to West End cinemas, which closed at 9 p.m., as previously arranged.

The only spot in the British Isles to have experienced a raid in three days was the Isle of Sheppey, off south-eastern England, yesterday afternoon.

Troops Stand By

"There were no casualties and little damage," the Air Ministry communique said in describing the single attack.

Troops yesterday and today on the English Channel coast exercised extreme precautions against any possible German invasion through the mist. Machine-guns were rushed into place.

All coastal highway traffic was halted, inspected and identified, while crews with long-range guns commanding the Straits of Dover were in readiness for instant action.

The Church of England yesterday revealed that German bombings during the past year have destroyed more than 1000 churches, schools, halls and vicarages throughout England, the official press bureau disclosed.

Some of Britain's most famous and oldest cathedrals were included in the list of destruction.

St. Michael's Cathedral in Coventry was said to have been totally destroyed, while Westminister Abbey, St. Paul's, Canterbury and Liverpool Cathedrals and St. Martin-in-the-Fields, St. James in Piccadilly and St. Mary's in le-Bow, were said to have been damaged.—United Press.

Channel Ports Attacked

London, Dec. 27.

Gun fire and flashes from across the English Channel in the early hours of this morning indicated that the Christmas lull in aerial activity had been broken.

There were unmistakeable signs that planes were about, and it appeared that the Royal Air Force had again attacked the invasion ports.

It is possible that other British planes penetrated well into enemy-occupied territory.

Heavy gunfire shook the Channel coast for 2½ hours during the darkness of this morning, when German long range guns mounted on the French coast fired across the fog-blanketed straits of Dover at intervals.—Reuter.

New Commander of East Indies Appointed

London, Dec. 27.

Vice-Admiral Geoffrey S. Arbuthnot, former Commander-in-Chief of the America and West Indies Station, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies in succession to Vice-Admiral Ralph Leathem. The appointment will date from about May 1941.—Reuter.

6,500 Jews Join British Fighting Units

Jerusalem, Dec. 27.

Six thousand five hundred Jews have enlisted in fighting units and various services of the British Army in the Near East. This was announced yesterday by Mr. Moshe Shertok, head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency.—Reuter.

German Troop Shifts In Hungary Seen

Budapest, Dec. 27.

Eye-witnesses yesterday reported an intensification of German land and aerial transports across Hungary in the past three days, with big trains rolling each hour, loaded with all equipment a big-scale German movement might require.

Germany's movement of more than 300,000 troops across Hungary into Rumania will require about one month, according to a consensus of diplomatic opinion yesterday.

The movement represents preparation for spring-time positions, rather than for immediate action in the Balkans, it was believed in diplomatic circles.

Between 300,000 and 350,000 soldiers were understood to be en route to Rumania. They were said to be completely-equipped with motorized and other modern units.

Diplomatic circles said Germany requisitioned between 1,000 and 1,200 trains to transport the troops across Hungary.

Reports of the troop movements and train requisitioning were officially denied at Berlin.

Russia's Attitude

Diplomatic circles stressed the impossibility of accurately forecasting Germany's intentions because of the "apparently dependent attitude of Russia."

Few German troops were said to have entered Bulgaria because King Boris had threatened Hitler he would abdicate immediately if Bulgaria was forced to serve as a base for German advances on other countries.

Germany now possesses sufficient military strength to drive a wedge between Greece and Turkey. However, diplomatic sources said it would be difficult to reconcile any German passage through Yugoslavia because of the recent Hungarian pact.

The Bulgarian situation was equally delicate.

Soviet Nazi Strength Estimated

Russian garrisons at Bessarabia now total at least 20 divisions with fully-mechanized accessories, it was believed. This was double the number of Russians there last Summer and early this Fall.

German garrisons in Rumania were estimated to range between 10 and 30 divisions, but this was admitted as pure guesswork.

There probably was mechanized equipment, artillery and equipment for a score or more divisions already in Rumania, it was believed.

Spring Believed Awaited

German action in Greece would be difficult this season because of severe geographical and climatic handicaps, so many observers favoured the "spring-time theory"—that Germany was waiting until spring for a major campaign.

Germany would gain just as much by reaching Salonika as by helping its faltering partner, observers said. From Salonika, the Iraq oil fields are only a, few hours flying time, not to mention Mosul or Baku.

There was some speculation of German action against Syria, necessitated by Italian weakness. Action there would necessitate Aegean Sea bases and would have to start early because the torrid summer begins early and operations after May are extremely difficult.—United Press.

Yugoslavia "Keeping Out"

Rome, Dec. 27.

"Yugoslavia wants to keep out of the present conflict and intends to maintain good relations of friendship with all her neighbours," declared the Yugoslavian Foreign Minister, M. Markovitch, in a statement to the press quoted in a Belgrade telegram to Stefani Agency.—Reuter.

Troop Movements Unconfirmed

London, Dec. 27.

Reports have been published in New York regarding the movement of German troops through Hungary. It was stated in official quarters here yesterday that there was no knowledge of such a movements.—Reuter.

Fighting the Italians in the Desert

Polish and Free French troops are now assisting British and Empire forces in their drive against the Italians in the Western Desert. After France's capitulation all Polish troops serving with the French joined the British Forces.

The European War, December 28.

Italian Stronghold Beset

Officer States Mussolini Ordered Bardia Defence "At All Costs"; Italian Claims Made

Cairo, Dec. 28.

BRITISH forces on land, at sea and in the air—yesterday continued to hammer Bardia, Italian stronghold in north-eastern Libya, but there was no major change in the battle situation, reports reaching here said.

Royal Air Force planes on December 24 carried out a low-level attack on an Italian landing field at Gazala and an Australian squadron on Thursday shot down two Italian fighters, an R.A.F. communique said.

A high Italian officer imprisoned here told the United Press yesterday that the commander at Bardia in north-eastern Libya was preparing to evacuate when he received an urgent order from Marshal Rodolfo Graziani, Governor-General of the Italian African Empire, to defend the Italian stronghold at all cost.

"Premier Mussolini intended so," the officer declared.

"Marshal Graziani was perfectly aware that Bardia would fall sooner or later and was preparing to make a stand at Tobruk (a few miles west of Bardia), which is being heavily fortified," the prisoner added.

An Egyptian observer just returned from advanced British headquarters described the unending files of lorries pouring men and materials west from the Libyan frontier in the direction of Bardia.

"A most interesting feature is that the convoys consisted largely of Italian Lancia or Fiat lorries with Diesel crude oil engines," the Egyptian observer said.

"I was given to understand that a tremendous number of such lorries had been captured in perfect running order, as well as dumps of fuel for the Diesel engines."—United Press.

Italian Claims

Rome, Dec. 27.

The military situation in the Cyrenaica front continued unchanged as English and Italian artillery batteries and patrols kept up their activities, while Italian planes carried out intense bombings of British batteries and mechanized units, the Italian High Command announced in today's communique.

It was claimed that Italian "hunting" planes engaged a number of British formations, shooting down three planes, while one Italian craft failed to return to its base.

On the morning of December 20, one Italian seaplane sighted a submarine in Cyrenaica waters and "effectively" bombed it, the communique stated.

Operations on the Greek front were marked by local activities patrol movements and artillery fire, the High Command report said, claiming that three British planes of the Blenheim type were brought down during the day's operations by Italian craft.—Domei.

Axis Powers Warn U.S. and Ireland

Berlin, Dec. 28.

Any American convoys delivering war materials to England via Ireland would risk danger in traversing a war zone, the first editions of Saturday morning newspapers said editorially.

The editorials were based on an unconfirmed report from New York that President Roosevelt was contemplating a proposal to eliminate Ireland from the zone in which American ships cannot travel under the Neutrality Act and thus enable American convoys to deliver war materials to Britain via Ireland.

The "Boersen-Zeitung," in a typical comment, said that all nations knew that Ireland lay within the zone of German blockade.—United Press.

Italian Warning

Rome, Dec. 28.

Morning newspapers here today warned that both the United States and Ireland risked war involvement if U.S. ships carried goods for Britain to Ireland.

"Doesn't London realize that an attempt to make Ireland a bridge between the United States and Britain would immediately involve both Ireland and the United States in the conflict?" asked the "Popolo di Roma."

"War imposed certain restrictions on United States' shipping which President Roosevelt acknowledged when he prohibited U.S. ships from going to Ireland," the "Messagero" said.

The editorials were similar to press comments in Berlin, based on an unconfirmed report from New York that President Roosevelt was contemplating a proposal to eliminate Ireland from the zone in which U.S. ships could not travel, in order to deliver U.S. war materials to Britain via Ireland.—United Press.

Enemy Supply Ship Hit Off Norway

London, Dec. 28.

British aircraft yesterday attacked shipping and harbour works in the Haugesund area, north of Stavanger (Norway), states the Admiralty. One enemy supply ship, of 4,000 tons, lying alongside a jetty, was hit and set on fire. Hits were also scored on jetties and warehouses. One of the enemy's anti-aircraft guns was silenced by machine-gun fire. All British aircraft returned safely.—Reuter.

Empire Training Scheme Pilots Reach Britain

London, Dec. 27.

The first batch of Australian pilots to reach Britain under the Empire training scheme landed at a west of Scotland port from Canada together with a further batch of Canadian airmen. In addition to pilots there are observers, air-gunners and wireless operators among the new arrivals.—Reuter.

Invasion Attempt Thought Imminent

London, Dec. 28.

Both the "News-Chronicle" and "The Times" express the opinion that the Germans are likely to make an invasion attempt in the near future.

"The Times" says: "Nothing that is known of German preparations in northern France justifies the belief that they have abandoned their intention of striking at us by air and sea. They will attempt an invasion if the gamble seems to be worth it. The Fuhrer's visit to channel ports and his delicious speech to his bodyguard—'I do not know what your fate will be, but so long as I have the honour to lead the fight at the head of the Reich it shall be an honour to you to bear my name and stand at the head of this battle'—do not suggest abandonment of the great design."

"Signs Not Bluff"

The "News-Chronicle" declares: "Signs that Hitler will shortly attempt an invasion have multiplied over Christmas, and men well qualified to speak believe these signs are not merely a bluff to divert attention from the Balkans, but a signal that the great assault is about to begin. Both evidence and legitimate deduction accumulate in favour of those who believe in imminence of an invasion.

"The Navy and Air Force have been pounding the Channel ports more severely than at any time since mid-September. Hitler has spent Christmas touring one of the areas whence an invading force would start, and has been addressing troops and airmen with impudent disregard of all he had said to them before.

"We have done less talking, but we have acted. Our precautions are taken. The Army is ready to toss back into the sea whatever enemy units may escape the vigilance of the navy. The Air Force is ready again to fight and win a battle as decisive as that which it fought in September.

"But whatever the truth may be as regards time and place of an invasion. It is certain that Hitler cannot afford a long war. Soon he must take the decisive step that will assuredly bring ruin on his head," the "News-Chronicle concludes.—Reuter.

"To Stake Everything"

New York, Dec. 28.

"Germany is preparing what she hopes will be a final attack against Britain, "declares Major Eliot, American military commentator.

"The Nazis are assembling stocks and supplies, first for an attack on the sea routes in which they will probably use the whole of their surface fleet regardless of loss. Simultaneously they will begin bombing ports and industries. If successful, this will be followed by an aerial and seaborne invasion."

Major Eliot says that Britain is aware of the plan, is concentrating on home defences and has also launched a counter-attack in the Mediterranean, where the stakes are so high that Hitler may not be able to stand aloof.

Hitler's possible solution would be an invasion of Spain. Twelve German divisions are concentrated on the Spanish frontier. Possibly the hungry Spaniards may arrest the invasion, he adds, particularly if Britain supplies them with food and armaments.—Reuter.

London Unaware of Italian Peace Move

London, Dec. 28.

Official quarters in London denied all knowledge yesterday of the report that an Italian commission or representatives were proceeding to London by air with peace terms.—Reuter.

Mr. Eden Asks for Soviet Frankness

London, Dec. 28.

Mr. Anthony Eden, newly-appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and M. Ivan Maisky, Russian Ambassador to Great Britain, yesterday held conversations which both described as a cordial exchange of assurances of desires to improve Soviet Russian-British relations.

They briefly referred to Far Eastern affairs, especially to their Governments' mutual desire to continue aid to China, it was understood.

It was popularly held that Moscow regards Mr. Eden without the distrust it accorded Viscount Halifax, his predecessor as Foreign Secretary.

Mr. Eden invited M. Maisky to specify immediate obstacles to a British-Russian reconciliation, it was understood.—United Press.

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Warships Hunt German Raiders

All Ships Bound for Fiji Island Ports Ordered To Call at Suva; London Stirred by Shelling

London, Dec. 28.

THAT Britain is making strenuous efforts to catch German raiders in the South Pacific, is the conclusion drawn from the announcement by the United States Navy Headquarters that all ships bound for ports on the Fiji Islands must first call at Suva, capital of the group, for orders, from January 1.

Shipping circles consider that control of all vessels at Suva would make it difficult for raiders to provision at small island ports.

British and Dutch warships, it is believed here, have mined certain areas in an effort to trap the raiders. —Reuter.

"Nazi Duplicity"

Canberra, Dec. 28.

Mr. Robert Menzies, Australian Prime Minister, yesterday denounced the recent shelling of Nauru Island in the Gilbert Island group by a German sea raider flying the Japanese flag.

"It was another example of German duplicity and disregard for the common decencies of civilized nations, who will hold Nazi tyranny in even deeper contempt and disgust," Prime Minister Menzies said.

Mr. Menzies said the island was totally undefended in accordance with the League of Nations mandate. The shelling caused considerable damage, but no casualties, he said.

The ship was said to have had a Japanese name, although it was not identified.

The Gilbert Islands are north-east of British New Guinea, just west of the international date line and directly south of the Japanese-mandated Caroline and Marshall Islands.—United Press.

London, Dec. 27.

British sources disclosed that they had not received any additional information regarding the shelling of Nauru Island by a German raider flying the Japanese flag, other than the announcement made by Mr. Robert Menzies, Australian Prime Minister.

It was pointed out that Nauru is a guano island rich in nitrate resources, but without any stragetic importance.

It was claimed that the Nazi raider has been known to be operating in that part in recent months. Nauru is one of the Gilbert Islands, north-east of British New Guinea.

The report caused considerable stir in Whitehall and all evening papers gave it prominent banner lines.

Especially given prominence was Mr. Robert Menzies' announcement that the German raider was flying Japanese colours and bore a Japanese name.

Excitement reigned in the Foreign Office where a fuller report was being awaited from Melbourne and Tokyo, after which observers believe would result in some diplomatic steps.—Domei.

"England Has Paid Her War Debt to the U.S."

Tulsa, Okla., Dec. 28.

Senator Josh Lee, Oklahoma Democrat, said yesterday that as far as he was concerned, "England has paid her war debt to the United States already in flesh and blood...."

Senator Lee made the statement in connection with a discussion of the Johnson Act, which prohibits the U.S. from extending credit to nations which have not paid the interest on their World War debt.

"Britain is fighting our battle," the Senator declared.

"If Britain falls before Chancellor Hitler, the Germans will be in South America as fast as their ships can carry them and they will be welcomed with open arms after uprisings and revolutions that will follow Britain's defeat.

"Our way of life is at stake—Democracy is at the crossroads."—United Press.

U.S. Senate Urged to Question Envoys

Washington, Dec. 28.

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, Republican of Michigan, who is among prominent Congressmen advocating peace, yesterday suggested that two former U.S. ambassadors be summoned to tell the Senate Foreign Relations Committee what they know of the European situation.

He suggested that Mr. Joseph P. Kennedy and Mr. William C. Bullitt, former Ambassadors to London and Paris, respectively be summoned.

Mr. Bullitt, who apparantly still is high in Administration favour, has spoken forcibly in support of greater aid to Britain. Mr. Kennedy has warned the United States continually to "stop, look and listen."—United Press.

Italian Caught in Crossfire on River

Struga, Yugoslavia, North Shore Lake Ohrida, Dec. 28.

Many Italian troops were drowned in the Harbol River on Thursday when they were caught between the rifle fire of two detachments of the Greek right wing on the coastal sector, frontier reports reaching here revealed yesterday.

The Italians were badly defeated in a two and one-half hour battle near the confluence of the Harbol with the Susikoa River, the reports declared.

It was specially noteworthy that the Greeks had now entered a rebellious Albanian district and that in Thursday's fighting they were assisted by an Albanian detachment under the famous rebel leader, Bilial Tot.

The Greeks were seeking to advance toward Valona, up the Susikoa valley, it was understood.

Six British and Greek warplanes bombed Valona on Friday morning and caused considerable damage in addition to killing 19 persons and wounding 50 others, it was learned. Then they bombed petrol deposits north of Valona.

After bombarding the Italians with artillery throughout Thursday, Greek troops in the Ossum River sector yesterday morning occupied the village of Vireja after a two hour battle and in snow more than three feet deep, frontier reports declared.

There were several casualties on both sides, it was understood.—United Press.

Another Nazi Held In United States

Milwaukee, Dec. 28.

Federal agents yesterday seized a draftsman, Mr. Eugene Bucerk on a charge of illegally acting on behalf of the German Reich for the past two years by failure to register with the State Department as a representative of Germany.

Mr. E. J. Konelzer, District Attorney, said Mr. Bucerk had been in the United States 15 years and belonged to the Nazi party for more than two years. He said Mr. Bucerk had obtained information on behalf of the German consulate recently and also led meetings of pro-Nazi Germans.

The Government fixed bail at US $10,000. The high bail was said due to the fact that new phases of the case had just been discovered which "required considerable time to investigate."

Herr Otto Baer, German Consul in Chicago, said Mr. Bucerk had not been acting officially on behalf of the German Government.—United Press.

Blitzkrieg Breaks London's Calm

London, Dec. 28.

The all-clear sounded in the London area late last night after the worst raid on the capital since December 8 and one of the worst since the start of the blitzkrieg.

Scores of high explosives and hundreds of incendiary bombs were scattered over a wide area.

When the alarm sounded in London at 7 o'clock last night, it was the capital's first alarm in 113 hours and it interrupted an apparently unofficial Christmas holiday aerial truce.

"As the raid developed, it had all the features of the worst blitzkrieg since the Luftwaffe launched its aerial attacks on this country," the Press Association said.

Traffic Carries on

Despite bursting bombs and a heavy barrage, Londoners carried on as usual. Buses and trains ran, uninterrupted by the raid, through main thoroughfares. The all-clear sounded after a half-hour lull.

Raiders appeared to pass over the city singly. For nearly two hours guns were firing almost continuously in the outskirts and sometimes in unison. Altogether, the raid lasted more than four hours. Clouds obscuring the visibility may have contributed to the early all-clear.

Early reports confirmed the belief that London was the main target of the night's attack. Some bombs were dropped on country districts in south-east England, probably by raiders en route to London.

Shelter Bombed

There were no reports of any enemy air activity elsewhere in Britain.

One bomb hit a shelter in one London district, where there were some casualties. A string of high explosives straddled another area, hitting a market, a restaurant and dwellings.

Meanwhile, German guns on the French coast shelled Britain for two and a half hours yesterday morning. The first salvo crashed into the Dover area and other salvoes shook the district at regular intervals. No damage or casualties were reported.—United Press.

Hungarian Cabinet Meeting Cancelled

Budapest, Dec. 28.

The weekly meeting of the Hungarian Cabinet has been cancelled owing to illness of several Ministers.

The Premier and Foreign Minister, Count Paul Teleki, and the Ministers of Finance and Justice all have influenza. —Reuter.

Cyclone Hits Morocco

Casablanca, Dec. 28.

Ten persons were killed by a cyclone which swept western Morocco in the region of Ben Ahmen yesterday. The cyclone levelled a century old cork forest, in which trees were three feet in circumference.—United Press.

Widespread Raids by R.A.F.

Berlin Given Particular Attention During Week Before Christmas; Numerous Targets Found

London, Dec. 28.

THE Royal Air Force continued its widespread heavy attacks on enemy and enemy-occupied territory during the week ending at dawn of December 27 but operations were suspended on December 24 and 25.

An aero-engine factory, other factories, railway stations, goods yards, anti-aircraft batteries, search-lights and the west harbour were attacked during a very heavy raid on Berlin. Some bombers came down to 100 feet.

Docks and petroleum works at Porto Marghera, near Venice, were raided for the first time, involving a flight there and back of more than 1,600 miles.

Industrial and railway targets at Mannheim were raked on two successive nights, making seven raids there since the beginning of December. Thousands of incendiaries were dropped, as well as very heavy bombs. Great fires were started, causing a violent explosion, at Ludwigshafen, opposite Mannheim.

The Oslo-Bergen railway, which is used by the Germans for carrying supplies to Bergen port, was hit at several points. This was the second raid on the railway within four days.

Four raids were carried out on shipping and the aerodrome at Dunkirk. Docks and harbour works at Flushing were raided thrice. Airmen who bombed a military establishment near Cap Gris Nez reported that a building was completely destroyed.

In all, 23 attacks were made against invasion ports and shipping, eight against oil and industrial targets, four against ports inland, over nine against factories, railways and goods yards, and many on aerodromes.

Four aircraft failed to return from all operations.—Reuter.

Greeks Advance with Attacks

Newly-fortified Italian Positions Captured Following Sharp Battle in Waist-deep Snow

Athens, Dec. 28.

GREEK forces advanced their front lines by fierce fighting, often at bayonet point, during the past 24 hours, a military spokesman said today.

At the end of two months of the Italian-Greek war, Italians had been driven back on the north central coast sectors, the spokesman said, adding that Greeks had held the initiative for weeks while thus far no major Italian counter-attack had been successful. The Italians had been unable to halt the Greek drive into the heart of Albania, he pointed out.

Sharp fighting occurred today west of the Drinos river, where, despite waist deep snow in the Sukagora mountains, newly-fortified Italian positions were captured and four villages were occupied, the spokesman reported.

Greek artillery was dragged to some of the captured heights by men and mules pulling improvised sledges. The artillery then was turned on districts dominating northern approaches to Tepeleni through the upper Voyasa valley.

Italians dropped 10 heavy bombs in the centre of Corfu in the 24th raid on the city since the war began, the spokesman stated.

Two hundred Italian planes were said to have bombed Preveza, northernmost Greek port near Albania the spokesman also said, but he added there were no victims and no damage was done, although the harbour was filled with shipping.

Drive Unchecked

Their forward drive apparently not checked by Italian reinforcements, Greek troops continued to mop up Fascists on every front, official reports said yesterday.

"Local operations continue successfully. More than 200 soldiers, including officers, were made prisoners and many automatic arms and mortars were captured," the War Ministry communique stated.

Athens radio reports said the Greeks had captured new heights in the Tepeleni sector in south-central Albania where their artillery was bombarding Italian positions.

The radio also declared they were systematically advancing in the Klisura sector, near Tepeleni, and had captured another coastal village.

Important Position Taken

On the northern front, the Greeks pushed back the Italians and captured a "village of great strategic importance," the radio said.

British bombers on Thursday raided warehouses, buildings and railway lines at Krionero and all the planes returned safely, a Royal Air Force communique said.

The Greeks captured three important positions and much war material in engagements in the Ostrovitsa sector, reliable reports from Koritza said.

"Enemy aviation bombed one town" in the Epirus sector of Greece "without damage," the Ministry of Public Security communique said.—United Press.

Heavy Damage in Reich Described

London, Dec. 28.

The Air Ministry today cited reports from eye witnesses as evidence of havoc wrought in Germany and German occupied ports by R.A.F. raids.

Tremendous fires had raged in Le Havre, eye witnesses reported and the Journal "L'Epitu" was suppressed for saying 70,000 German troops were forced to withdraw from Le Havre barracks.

Petrol dumps and an ammunition train were destroyed at Kleber, it was declared.

R.A.F. raids on Berlin heavily damaged the Moabit and Hahlen Sea stations and railway trunk lines and the tunnel to the Stettiner station was hit, the eye witnesses reported.

The Wilhelmstrasse and the Dorotheenstrasse were closed for several days, isolating important offices, because of bomb hits, it was declared. The Siemens-Schukert works was badly damaged.

A marked shortage of coal in the Berlin district resulted from disruption of the Ruhr railways.

Other industrial centres badly damaged included the Gelsenkirchen factories and refineries, and the M.A.M. factory, which makes a large percentage of Germany's welding electrode equipment.—United Press.

British War Orders in U.S. Begin to Arrive

London, Dec. 28.

Sir Walter Layton, British banker and economist, said yesterday that the first orders placed by Britain in the United States were just beginning to arrive. If Britain could hold its own throughout 1941 American production would make an ultimate victory certain, he declared.—Reuter.

Axis Alliance Rejected By Bulgarians

Sofia, Dec. 28.

The Bulgarian Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, in a stormy four-hour meeting yesterday, overwhelmingly rejected a proposal for Bulgarian adherence to the Axis, a usually well-informed source reported.—United Press.

Nazi Troops on Move

Budapest, Dec. 28.

An eye-witness said yesterday he had seen between ten and 12 German troop trains a day crossing Hungary during the last several weeks, but said he could not estimate the number of soldiers on board.

Many carried mainly equipment and only skeleton crews, the eye-witness said.

The number of trains had increased, recently reaching ten to 12 on some days, he said.

A really heavy movement was not expected to begin before today, when restrictions on civilian traffic become effective.

Holidaymakers from northern Transylvania meanwhile reported that German troops were passing through there, en route to strengthen the northern Bessarabian frontier along the Pruth River. It was known that Soviet Russia had about 20 divisions along the Bessarabian frontier.

Competent observers heard that movements of German troops to the south-east would end possibly on January 6, after transportation had been expedited to at least 60 trains a day.

Bulgarian Crisis

King Boris III of Bulgaria conferred with the Crown Council at length on Thursday, it was learned reliably yesterday.

The King retired a number of high Army officers because of their pro-Axis leanings, highly reliable sources declared.

The Soviet Legation at Bucharest issued an official denial of a rumour that the Soviet Minister had been recalled, according to D.N.B. official German news agency.

"Reports that the Minister is preparing to leave are completely without foundation," the official denial said.

Rumours that German troops on Thursday night quietly crossed the Danube River into Yugoslavia, just west of the Bulgarian frontier were promptly denied by the Yugoslavian Legation here.

Rumanian communications with other countries have been cut off, except for governmental calls.

Aeroplane communications to Rumania also were cancelled yesterday.—

Whether the German troops would pause in Rumania to await spring or would continue toward the Aegean at present was regarded here as a complete mystery. Other objectives also were conjectured.

Considerable attention was concentrated by observers on the Greek drive toward Valona and Italian difficulties in Albania.

The consensus of opinion, however, was that the Germans would not move until climatic conditions were more propitious.

Meanwhile, the Hungarian State Railways published a schedule effective on December 29 and showing an approximately 75 per cent. reduction in normal traffic.

A statement regarding the restriction of traffic said it was due chiefly to a coal shortage as a result of the November mine strike, and also because "new Transylvanian territory has increased the freight hauls by about 700 kilometres and created a shortage of rolling stock."—United Press.

Chaplin Film Banned

Buenos Aires, Dec. 28.

The Government has prohibited the showing of Charlie Chaplin's film, "The Great Dictator," owing to representations by the Italian Ambassador. —Reuter.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS (continued)

The European War, December 29.

Nazi Ports Held in Raid

Lorient Again Battered, "Invasion Bases" Smashed in Sustained Attack

London, Dec. 29.

FOR the last 24 hours, by daylight and in darkness, the R.A.F. has been carrying out a sustained attack on German "invasion bases" on the French and Norwegian coasts. Only part of the story of their first full-scale offensive since Christmas had been told before, just after the fourth official communique had been issued, London and other big cities were blacked-out in anticipation of a repetition of Friday night's Nazi attack, but the story was one of success.

The submarine base at Lorient was the main objective of British bombers last night, it was learned authoritatively, while other planes attacked targets on the coasts of occupied France and the Low Countries.

The Air Ministry stated: "Two attacks were made today (Saturday) on Lorient docks by forces of bombers of the Coastal Command. Hits were observed and all our aircraft returned safely."

Lorient, an important base for German U-boats, was one of the targets attacked by the R.A.F. on Friday night. It has now been raided 41 times in all.

In previous communiques, the Air Ministry had revealed that, during day-light on Friday, raids had been carried out on Egersund and Haugesund and during the night, on Bordeaux, Lorient and Le Havre.

Haugesund is one of the most westerly point in Norway, lying approximately opposite the Orkney islands and is midway between Havanger and Bergen.

Bergen, north of Haugesund, is the terminus of the Oslo-Bergen railway line—used considerably in recent troop movements—which has been bombed twice this month. Egersund is 60 miles south of Haugesund.—Reuter.

100 Bombs a Minute

London, Dec. 29.

Waves of British bombers were estimated to have dropped one hundred bombs per minute on German "Invasion ports" from Calais to Boulogne last night in one of the biggest raids on the French coast of the war.

Channel watchers saw a fierce fire break out near a gun position at Cape Gris Nez.

After midnight this morning the raid, which had continued for more than three hours, was still in progress.

Searchlights ringing Cape Gris Nez threw up a wall of light and anti-aircraft guns fired a heavy barrage. The raid was believed to be the heaviest since the September and October invasion rumours.

Large forces and Coastal Command bombers yesterday twice attacked the docks at Lorient, where German submarines were believed to be harboured.

"Hits were observed and all our aircraft returned safely," the Air Ministry communique said.

Ship Set On Fire

Other planes set on fire a 4,000-ton German ship, the Admiralty communique announced.

Royal Air Force planes on Friday night bombed the docks at Cherbourg and Lorient, the aerodrome at Bordeaux and the shipbuilding yards at St. Nazaire, the Air Ministry communique said. Two British bombers were said missing.

The Air Ministry said British planes also mined "enemy" waters.—United Press.

Airmen Dare Death In Epic of Skies

Athens, Dec. 29.

Spinning towards 10,000 feet high mountain peaks with their plane out of control through ice, the crew of a bomber plane, returning from a raid over Albania, decided to jump. Then they found that the observer's parachute pack had been thrown out of the machine.

Both the pilots and the machine-gunner made the same decision; they would "stay put."

The following seconds the seemingly doomed plane swooped blindly through the clouds. At 7,000 feet the machine shot out of a cloud layer and the Royal Air Force men found they were in a narrow valley between mountain peaks.

The pilot righted his aircraft as best he could and landed in a tiny field that formed the only landing ground for miles.

This story—showing how the R.A.F. has to fight the weather as well as the enemy in carrying out its operations—was related by a Canadian flight-commander.

All those with experience of bad weather flying are, therefore, amazed that the Royal Air Force units in Greece have not only continued, but increased the number of bombing raids, fighter patrols and reconnaissance flights in the past few weeks.

Equally remarkable are the small losses of British aircraft. Only four fighters have been lost—one pilot escaped by parachute—and bomber losses have been eight.

Against these figures, the Italians have had at least 50 aircraft definitely destroyed in Greece and Albania by the R.A.F. as well as 16 "probables" and many other unconfirmed losses.

Considerably more than 70 raids over the enemy lines have been carried out since the arrival of the Royal Air Force.—Reuter.

Nazi Restrictions in Belgium Increase

London, Dec. 29.

Further evidence of the doubtful value of the benefits that the Nazis claim to have conferred on the occupied countries in Europe is found in a German news agency message which announces that no shoes or textile goods may be sold to customers by Belgian shopkeepers without an official purchase permit.

Permits also are necessary for the purchase of linoleum, tapestry carpets and woven goods of all kinds, and will be issued only to applicants who "can prove that they are in dire need of such goods."—Reuter.

Yarnell Reporting To Washington

Newport, R.I., Dec. 29.

Rear-Admiral Harry E. Yarnell, retired former Commander of the United States Asiatic Fleet, said yesterday he had been ordered to report to Washington Friday for active duty.

Admiral Yarnell said he did not know what his assignment would be. He has just recovered from a severe cold.—United Press.

Southampton Raided But London Quiet

London, Dec. 29.

No German pilot approached the London area during day-light yesterday after the prolonged onslaught on Friday night—the first the capital had had since Monday.

A lone raider dropped some bombs over Southampton yesterday afternoon causing, it was officially stated, damage and a few casualties. A German aircraft was also stated to have been over the Midlands area during the afternoon—Reuter.

South-west Town Bombed

London, Dec. 29.

German bombers last night apparently were neglecting London as they attacked a south-west town in waves for an hour.

The German planes scattered high explosives and incendiary bombs in one of the town's worst raids of the war.

Two hospitals were hit and shops and cottages were destroyed, but casualties were believed to be comparatively small.—United Press.

Greeks Break Through Defences

Undaunted by bitterly cold weather Greek forces continued to advance through Albania yesterday, breaking down the Italian defences at an important strategic point north of Chimara (written on the above map as Himara). Greek naval forces meanwhile went into action once more and scored there most signal success against the Italians, one submarine being reported to have sunk three Italian transports in spite of a convoy.

Warning to U.S. Repeated

"Convoying of Vessels with Materials for Britain Will Be Treated as Act of War," States Berlin

Berlin, Dec. 29.

THE German press warning on Friday and yesterday that United States vessels sailing under convoy to Ireland to deliver war supplies for Great Britain were liable to be sunk received the official endorsement yesterday of an authorized German source.

The newspaper warnings, appearing in editorial form, were based on an unconfirmed report from New York that President Roosevelt would propose elimination of Ireland from the restricted zone under the Neutrality Act, thus enabling American convoys to deliver war materials to England via Ireland.

"I think the way the German press handled this Irish problem was excellent and clearly discussed the situation in correct proportions," the authorized source said. "However, I have nothing to add thereto."

The "Berliner Boersen-Zeitung," in a typical comment, had said that all nations knew that Ireland lay within the zone of German blockade and warned that American convoys would risk danger if they traversed a war zone.

Other informed German quarters, referring to London press hints that Britain might be compelled to seize Irish ports, said, "The question is one which the Irish must solve themselves."—United Press.

Gayda Involves Japan

Rome, Dec. 29.

Japan would intervene immediately under the terms of the tripartite pact if the United States attempted to deliver war supplies to Ireland for forwarding to England, Sig. Virginio Gayda, editor of the "Giornale d'Italia," wrote yesterday.

Sig. Gayda's remarks followed an unconfirmed report from New York that President Roosevelt sought elimination of Ireland from the Neutrality Act restricted zone to enable American convoys to deliver war goods there.

He said that the United States delivery of war material to England by American ships going to Ireland would be an open violation of the United States' neutrality stand.

Spreading Conflict

The Italian writer accused the British of attempting to spread the conflict into the western hemisphere.

"American interventionists must recall the Tripartite Pact," Sig. Gayda said. "Japan has ample means at its disposal, is watching the situation, and will not permit a spreading of the European conflict without an immediate reaction."

Other Italian newspapers warned that both the United States and Ireland risked war involvement if U.S. ships should carry goods for Britain to Ireland. They were similar to press comments at Berlin.—United Press.

De Gaulle Urges Return to Fray

London Dec. 29.

While mystery still surrounds the Vichy Government's negotiations with Germany, General de Gaulle, leader of free Frenchmen, broadcast last night a strong appeal to French leaders to redraw their sword.

"There is nothing to do but fight," he declared.

Announcing that 1,000 free French soldiers, sailors and airmen had died for France since the armistice was signed, General de Gaulle said: "If our Africa, our Syria and our fleet were fighting for France now, the great battle of the Mediterranean would end at once in a great French victory.

"We proclaim that wherever Frenchmen are and whatever their positions, ranks and opinions should be, if they will resume the struggle we shall be with them without delay and without conditions.

"We proclaim that all the French leaders whatever may have been their mistakes, who will draw once more the sword which they had sheathed shall find us by their side excluding no one and with no thought of ambition."

An appeal for all the people to observe an "hour of hope" by remaining indoors for one specified hour by emptying the streets of towns and villages everywhere. General de Gaulle said: "By this huge plebiscite of silence France will show the whole world that she has a future only in freedom, greatness only in independence and salvation only in victory."—Reuter.

Death for Saboteurs

Rome, Dec. 29.

The death penalty has been officially decreed for large-scale acts of sabotage, hoarding or waste affecting national economy. Distribution and consumption of foodstuffs will be controlled, army needs getting priority.—Reuter.

Concentration on Bardia Continues

Cairo, Dec. 29.

British artillery continued to harass the Italian garrison at Bardia yesterday while concentration of forces near the Italian stronghold in north-eastern Libya was "proceeding smoothly," the official war communique said yesterday.

The British for days now have been drawing their men, munitions and supplies into position around Bardia for a "final push" on the coastal town.

"Operations by mobile detachments are proceeding, the communique said, "....Four additional guns were captured south of Bardia."

The British have taken 38,114 soldiers prisoner thus far, including 24,845 Italians, it was revealed.

In Italian East Africa, British bombers raids Assab, with "bombs straddling military stores and a large transport yard."

The communique stated that a Rhodesian squadron bombed and machine-gunned "enemy" positions in the Kassala and Sabberat areas. "Bombs fell on the targets in the areas. The full extent of the damage and the number of casualties are unknown."

British fighters shot down several Italian fighters in flames in South Africa, the communique said. There were no losses among British planes in all engagements, it added.—United Press.

British Mopping Up

Cairo, Dec. 29.

While preparations for a final assault on Bardia are being made, British mechanized units are cleaning up troop concentrations East and South of the Libyan port with the object of preventing reinforcements from reacing the beleaguered garrison and ensuring that none there will escape.

It is believed the defenders are short of water and other supplies. They are resisting fiercely despite their apparently hopeless position.—Reuter.

U.S. Faces Biggest Budget Since 1918

Washington, Dec. 29.

The Administration is planning to submit to Congress on January 7 a double budget in which approximately US$10,000,000,000, will be allocated for defence and between US$7,000,000,000 and US$8,000,000,000 for regular expenses for the fiscal year 1942, it was understood yesterday. The grand total, therefore may approach the 1918 record, when US$18,000,000,000 was appropriated.

The budget was said to estimate governmental receipts at approximately US$7,000,000,000 or US$8,000,000,000, which roughly would cover regular government expenses—aside from defence costs.

The US$10,000,000,000 military item presumably would be sufficiently large to enable the financing of President Roosevelt's suggestion of building armaments to loan or lease to Britain.

The "New York Herald-Tribune" reported that the United States Treasury was seeking governmental control of foreign exchange transactions. However, the Department of State was said to have opposed such a measure.

The measure would shut off funds for propaganda and anti-sabotage work and would control foreign purchases of United States materials, the newspaper said.—United Press.

Greek Sinks Transports

Athens, Dec. 29.

The Greek submarine Papanicolis on December 24 torpedoed and sank three Italian transports in the northern area of the Straits of Otranto between Valona and Brindisi, adjoining Albanian and Italian seaports, the Greek Admiralty announced yesterday.

The transports, aggregating more than 30,000 tons and carrying troops and war materials, were sunk despite a convoy of several warships, the communique said.

The transports were convoying reinforcements to the rapidly-retreating Italian forces in Albania.

The Admiralty announced the submarine had safely returned to its base late yesterday.

Greek advanced mountain patrols broke through Italian defences north of Chimara in the coastal sector and occupied heights in excess of 3,000 feet after repeated and determined attacks, the Government spokesman said.

The Italian rear-guard fought hard to cover the retreat, he added.

Greeks in the central sector captured several Italian soldiers and a number of mountain mortars and other war materials, he said.

The Island of Corfu again was bombed, but the results were not known, he said.—United Press.

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The European War, December 30.

Roosevelt Denounces Axis

(Defeat of Rome, Berlin and Tokyo Predicted); U. S. Must Be "A Great Arsenal of Democracy"

Washington, Dec. 30.

PRESIDENT Roosevelt, in a radio broadcast to the nation last night, flatly rejected proposals that the United States should initiate a peace movement and confidently predicted that the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis will meet with defeat.

The President appealed to the American nation to turn itself into a "great arsenal of Democracy" and pledged the expansion of American aid, "short of war," to Britain.

Mr. Roosevelt denounced Japan and other members of the Axis as signatories of an "unholy alliance of power designed to dominate and enslave the human race."

The President promised the nation that American soldiers would not be sent to fight in Europe, but pointed out that the United States must increase her material aid to Britain if an American war with the Axis Powers is to be averted in the future.

"Does anyone seriously believe," Mr. Roosevelt said, "that we need to fear attack while a free Britain remains our most powerful naval neighbour in the Atlantic?

"Does anyone seriously believe, on the other hand, that we could rest easy if the Axis Powers were our neighbours there?

"It is no exaggeration to say that all of us in the Americas would be living at the point of a gun....To survive in such a world we would have to convert ourselves permanently into a militaristic power on a basis of war economy....

"Frankly and definitely there is danger ahead——a danger against which we must prepare. We well know that we cannot escape this danger, or the fear of this danger, by crawling into bed and pulling the covers up over our heads."

China Lauded

The President applauded China's prolonged resistance against Japanese aggression and described China as a "great defence" to the United States. He indicated that China could expect increased material assistance from the United States.

"Any South American country in Nazi hands would always constitute a jumping off place for Germany in attacking any other Republic in this Hemisphere," the President said.

"There are those who say the Axis never would have any desire to attack the Western Hemisphere. This is the same form of dangerous, wishful thinking which has destroyed the powers of resistance of so many conquered peoples....

"Evil Within Our Gates"

"Let us no longer blind ourselves to the undeniable fact that the evil which has crushed, undermined and corrupted so many others already is within our gates....

"The experience of the past two years has proved beyond doubt that no nation can appease the Nazis. No man can tame a tiger into a kitten by stroking it.

"There can be no appeasement with ruthlessness. There can be no reasoning with incendiary bombs. We know now that a nation can have peace with the Nazis only at the price of total surrender....

"Thinking in terms of today and tomorrow, I make the direct statement to the American people that there is far less chance of the United States' getting into war, if we do all that we can now to support the nations who are defending themselves against Axis attack, than if we acquiesce in their defeat, submit tamely to an Axis victory and await our turn to be the object of attack in another war later."

Blunt Reply to Nazis

The President's remarks in this connection were regarded as a blunt reply to recent German warnings to the United States against extending material aid to Britain.

The President said his aim was to keep the United States "out of a last ditch war for the preservation of American independence" and clearly indicated that he intended to do this by supplying Britain and China with material aid sufficient to assure the defeat of the Axis Powers.

Mr. Roosevelt began speaking at 9.30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (11.30 a.m. today Shanghai Time). His speech was broadcast over the three major radio chains to more than 500 stations in the U.S. and by short-wave to many countries of the world.

"This is not a fireside chat on war," Mr. Roosevelt said. "It is a talk regarding national security, because the whole purpose of your President is to keep you now, and your children later, and your grandchildren much later, out of a last ditch war for the preservation of American independence and all things American independence means to you and me and ours."

New Crisis Facing U.S.

"Tonight, in the presence of world crisis, my mind goes back to eight years ago.

"In the midst of domestic crisis it was a time when the wheels of American industry were grinding to a full stop, when the whole banking system ceased to function....

"I tried to convey to the great mass of American people what a banking crisis would mean to their daily lives.

"Tonight, I want to do the same thing with the same people in this new crisis which faces America....

"Never before, since Jamestown and Plymouth Rock has our American civilization been in such danger as now. For on September 27, 1940, by an agreement signed at Berlin, three powerful nations, two in Europe and one in Asia, joined themselves together in a threat that if the United States interfered with or blocked the expansion of the programme of these three nations—a programme aimed at world control—they would unite in ultimate action against the United States....

Undeniable Threat

"The Axis not merely admits, but also proclaims, that there cannot be an ultimate peace between their philosophy of Government and our philosophy of Government.

"In view of the nature of this undeniable threat, it can be asserted properly and categorically that the United States has no right or reason to encourage the talk for peace until the day shall come when there is a clear intention on the part of the aggressor nations to abandon all thought of dominating or conquering the world.

"At this moment the forces of the states leagued against all peoples who live in freedom is being held away from our shores.

"Germany and the Italians are being blocked on the other side of the Atlantic by the British and Greeks....

"The Japanese are being engaged in Asia by the Chinese in another great defence.

"In the Pacific is our Fleet in part. Some of our people like to believe that the wars in Europe and Asia do not concern us. But it is of most vital concern to us that the European and Asiatic warmakers should not gain control of the oceans which lead to this hemisphere."—United Press.

Historic House Suffers in Raid

Indiscriminate bombing by the Nazis has caused damage to Holland House, Kensington. Built by Sir Walter Cope, Gentleman of the Bedchamber to James I in 1607, Holland House is now the home of the Earl of Ilchester. Picture shows damage to the famous library.

Raider's Xmas Attacked Staved

London, Dec. 30.

The success of a British armed convoy in staving off an attack by a German warship on Christmas morning colourfully was described yesterday in an Admiralty communique.

"On the morning of Christmas Day a powerful enemy surface warship attempted to attack one of our convoys in the north Atlantic. One ship in the convoy was hit and received slight damage.

"The enemy withdrew at high speed as soon as it realized that the convoy was escorted.

"Our escorting force immediately gave chase and was able to engage the enemy until the visibility, which had been variable, decreased rapidly until it was reduced to one-half mile.

"One shell was seen to burst amidships of the enemy, but it is not possible to state the extent of further damage inflicted by our gunfire.

"H.M.S. Berwick, 9,750-ton Kent type cruiser formerly in China waters, one of the escorting force, sustained slight damage and five casualties, but remains at sea as an effective unit in the Fleet.

"During the pursuit of the enemy raider in the low visibility the German ss. Baden, 8,204 tons, was intercepted, but immediately set herself on fire and had to be sunk by one of our warships.

"It was considered probable that the Baden was acting as a supply ship for a German raider."

The raider was a heavy cruiser of the Hipper class, displacing 10,000 tons and carrying eight-inch guns.—United Press.

Two Explosions Halt Traffic in Berlin

Berlin, Dec. 30.

Two heavy bomb-like explosions in the baggage room of the Anhalter Station early this morning set the western part of the station on fire and all incoming and outgoing railway traffic was halted.—United Press.

Germany, Italy Admit British Bombing

Berlin, Dec. 30

British warplanes winged their way over Germany and German occupied territory on the Continent last night, the High Command admitted

"Without exception," the High Command said, however, "bombs fell on open spaces or into the sea."—United Press.

British Bomb Naples

Rome, Dec. 30.

British warplanes dropped both bombs and leaflets on Naples last night, said an official communique today.

Bombs struck houses, killing seven persons and wounding an undisclosed number of other persons, the communique said.

British planes also bombed Italian bases along the Cyrenaica frontier, the communique said, but the bombs "caused no important damage."—United Press.

U.S. Preparing For War Entry

London, Dec. 30.

Well-informed British circles, after their first study of the broadcast made last night by President Roosevelt, today regarded the address as preparing the United States for entry into the war at a not too distant date.

Such a belief, they said, was backed by the fact that the President's speech appeared to be the most outspoken denunciation of the Totalitarian nations that Mr. Roosevelt has yet made.

The President of the United States, they also added, clearly lined up the United States with Britain by promising as much aid as possible outside of actual entry into the European war.

The speech arrived in London too late for the majority of the morning papers to publish.—United Press.

London Pleased

London, Dec. 30.

President Roosevelt's speech is warmly welcomed in official circles here, where it is regarded as further proof of the courage and realism of America's attitude toward the dangers which confront Democracy no less in the Western Hemisphere than in Europe and Asia, says Reuters' diplomatic correspondent.

The speech is one of the most logical and powerful indictments of the Nazis ever spoken and the President's recognition of the futility of any attempt to appease the forces of evil, is noted with special satisfaction.

His definition of America's role as an arsenal of Democracy and his forthright expression of belief in the ultimate defeat of the Axis Powers, will be a source of inspiration and courage to the leaders and people of Britain.

Goodwill and provision of American material assistance in gathering volume and, above all, with the utmost speed are of no less than vital importance to the people of Britain, who are determined to continue the war, until the dangers which now beset Democracy are finally overcome.—Reuter.

Berlin "Interested"

Berlin, Dec. 30.

Authorized German quarters today declined to comment officially on the speech made last night by President Roosevelt, but merely stated that it was "extremely interesting."

The speech, they added, was being "most carefully studied" by the highest officials.

The text of the speech arrived here too late for publication in the morning newspapers. The speech, however, probably will not be published and certainly will receive no comment in the press until the Foreign Office will have completed its study of the address.

Government officials, informed quarters believed, will use the speech as an occasion to end their policy of ignoring United States' "pinpricks" and will probably issue a carefully planned reaction.—United Press.

Germans Take Food from France, Norway

London, Dec. 30.

The Germans are reported to be taking out from France and Norway into Germany enormous quantities of food and other supplies, of which the French and Norwegians themselves are very badly in need.

In Norway, the Germans were said to be confiscating most of the meat supplies. During Christmas alone, 50,000 sheep intended for hospital patients were alleged to have been seized.

It is also impossible for Norwegian civilians to obtain bacon and eggs.

The Italian army, in addition to being fed on Norwegian supplies, is now being clothed at the expense of Norwegians and Belgians, it is further stated.

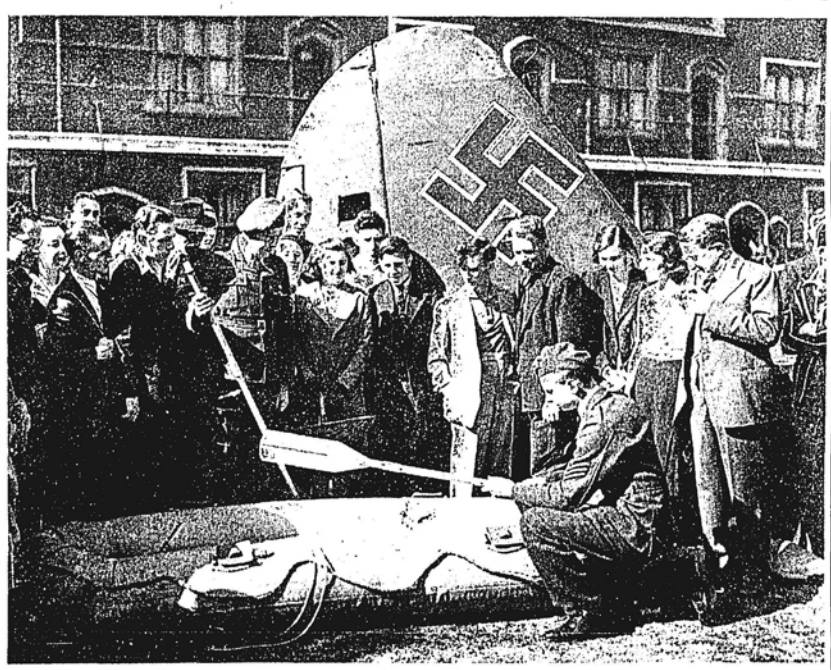
The Germans are said to have closed all shops in Norway and Belgium selling textiles until the new year, when coupons will be introduced to regulate the sale of all clothing material.—Reuter.

Petain Given Pledges By Prisoners

Vichy, Dec. 30.

For the first time since the Armistice, Marshal Philippe Petain, French Premier, yesterday received pledges of support from French prison camps in Germany, following distribution of his Christmas gifts to prisoners.

A group of 274 officers, all graduates of the Cyr Military Academy and now prisoners, sent Marshal Petain a letter pledging their support of the "national revolution." Other soldiers and officers joined in expression of fidelity to Marshal Petain.—United Press.



Wrecked Nazi Bomber Aids War Funds

The wreckage of a Junkers bomber has been placed on show by the Wood Green Bomber Fund Committee to assist their drive to provide more planes for Britain. Airmen of the Aviation Training Corps are seen inspecting the Nazi pilot's rubber boat, which the craft carried, while a crowd of sightseers look on.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS (continued)

Nazis Try Set London Afire

Record Number of Incendiary Bombs Rained On Heart of City ; Six Famous Churches Hit

London, Dec. 30.

SIX famous churches of the city and the Guildhall were among the buildings damaged last night in a concerted effort by Marshal Goering's bombers to set the heart of London ablaze. The churches were: St. Bride's Church (Fleet Street), St. Lawrence (Jewry), St. Stephen's (Coleman Street), St. Vedast's (Foster Lane), St. Mary (Aldermanbury) and St. Andrew.

Eight incendiary bombs fell on the roof of the Guildhall. They were dealt with by the A.R.P. staff, but the flames spread from the Church of St. Lawrence across the small Guildhall courthouse and set the roof of the Guildhall alight.

St. Paul's Cathedral for the second time since the war broke out had a miraculous escape, flames from nearby fires being extinguished in the nick of time.

Never before have so many incendiary bombs been rained down in a single raid. It was the greatest fire-raising attempt the Luftwaffe has ever made, but despite the stupendous strain placed on London's fire fighting services they answered brilliantly and heroically, and by the time the morning rush hours started all fires had been got under control.

Bright at Daylight

The pitch-black, moonless night, in which flames appeared to lick upwards on all sides, provided a picture of macabre splendour. In one district alone, the fire-brigades had to deal with 40 outbreaks. But although they succeeded in starting blazes which lit up streets like daylight, the German bombers did not succeed in their usual tactics of returning to pump high-explosive bombs into the illuminated targets.

The heavy barrage which had been the accompaniment of the scene, suddenly stopped. For a moment, there was an almost unearthly silence; then was heard the roar of British night fighters. With their machine-guns spitting prolonged bursts, they dived on the raiders. The battle was short and sharp. The Germans were driven off.

Roof-spotters clinging to their posts did invaluable work, directing firemen and A.R.P. personnel to danger points where incendiary bombs had fallen.

Hero of the Night

One of the heroes of the night was Mr. Charles McCarthy, night hall porter at a building near St. Bride's Church. After helping put out fires caused by two incendiaries, he climbed to the belfry in an attempt to deal with a third, but was driven back by smoke. Then he rescued the altar cloth and bibles from the altar and also saved a brass lectern which he had to drag down an aisle as great embers were falling into the body of the church.

St. Bride's, which is very near to Fleet Street and known to journalists all over the Empire, is perhaps as fine an example of Wren's work as can be found. Today, only part of the walls and the spire remain intact.

St. Vedast's Foster Lane, has been completely gutted though the tower and outer walls remain. At the Guildhall, fortunately, most of the treasures which used to adorn the building before the war, had been removed to safety; otherwise they must certainly have been destroyed, for the flames spread rapidly and soon the council chamber and the ancient banquetting hall were alight.

One of the oldest houses in London, the Neville's Court, built in 1664, which had survived the Great Fire of London, was a victim of last night's raiders.

Modern Buildings Stand

Although the region of the city was the worst hit by the raid, fires were also caused in other areas, and considerable damage was done to commercial buildings.

A noteworthy feature of what is officially described as a deliberate attempt to burn the City of London was the manner in which modern buildings withstood the onslaught.

The fiercest fires were in old buildings used as offices and containing much dry wood.

Noteworthy too was the coolness of the women ambulance workers and firefighters, and of the operators of mobile tea canteens throughout the raid.

Sheltering in one church which was hit were 400 people, but all were safely evacuated.

German raiders also dropped bombs at a place in north-east England, where a small number of people were killed and others injured, and on Suffolk coast town and two Kent coast towns, where some houses were damaged but no casualties reported.

During the week ending midnight December 28, the Germans in raids on Britain lost seven planes. During the same period no British fighters were lost.

Five British bombers were lost in the course of widespread heavy attacks over enemy-occupied territory.—Reuter.

More Nazi Forces Cross Hungary

Budapest, Dec. 30.

The transit of German troops across Hungary reached the peak load of 25 trains yesterday through Budapest alone, said reliable reports here.

Local observers were inclined to believe the troop movements were in preparation for spring action, possibly about March 1, but admitted that if the Italians seem unable to check the Greeks in Albania the aspect might change overnight.

Diplomatic circles understood that Russia and Rumania were planning to transfer diplomatic relations to their respective Berlin diplomats without technically severing relations. Motive for the move was said to be due to Soviet scruples against having diplomatic representatives in occupied countries.

Count Teleki to Resign

Count Michael Teleki, yesterday was expected to resign soon as Minister of Agriculture because of Cabinet internal differences over readjustments in Transylvania.

Count Dionis Banffy, a Transylvanian, was expected to replace Count Teleki, who is the youngest member of the Hungarian Cabinet. The change was said to have no internal significance.—United Press.

Eire's A. A. Guns Go Into Action

Dublin, Dec. 30.

Anti-aircraft batteries in several parts of Eire went into action yesterday, when unidentified aircraft were sighted over widespread areas of the country. Dublin and the Eastern Counties area were among many places over which unknown military aircraft were sighted throughout the day. Anti-aircraft artillery south of the capital opened fire, and interceptor patrols immediately took off, but the intruders disappeared into thick clouds before they could be identified.—Reuter.

Britain's Will to Win Emphasized

Wellington, Dec. 30.

"We know that the tide which has turned in our favour will carry us on to the battlefield of our own choosing and to the decisive blow for which we are preparing," declared the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Mr. Fraser, in a broadcast today.

"This is not cheap optimism but an assurance based solidly on the empire's vast resources and will to win," he added.—Reuter.

French Paper Suppressed

London, Dec. 30.

The French newspaper "Petit Journal" is reported to have been suppressed for stating that 70,000 German troops have been withdrawn from Le Havre because of British bombing.

Before France was overrun by Germany, the journal was published in Paris and had a circulation of about 300,000.—Reuter.

Tells Troops of His Confidence

General Sir Archibald Wavell, commander-in-chief of the British forces in the Middle East, recently issued an order to the troops telling of his confidence in the outcome of the struggle. He is shown taking leave of officers of the Australian Imperial Forces before he paid a hurried visit to the War Office in London, before the opening of the British offensive on Libya.

R.A.F. Better in Middle East

Two Planes Shoot Down Five Italian Aircraft; Tobruk Bombed; Little Action at Bardia

Cairo, Dec. 30.

TWO British fighters brought down five Italian aircraft during an encounter yesterday between R.A.F. fighters and a large formation of Italian bombers escorted by fighters.

In announcing this, the R.A.F. headquarters in the Middle East also reveal that a daring R.A.F. attack was made on Tobruk on the night of December 26, when military objectives and shipping were subjected to a merciless bombardment.

In retaliation, Italian bombers attacked Sollum, but only slight damage was caused.

Rome Radio, in its efforts to create mistrust of British war news, yesterday adopted a rather novel expedient. It accused the B.B.C. and Cairo of issuing widely different reports of the number of Italian machines destroyed—alleging that while the former gave Italian losses as two planes, the latter gave 24.

Rome was half correct in its facts, according to authoritative quarters. It only omitted to mention that the figure given by the B.B.C. was for the single day of December 26, and that the Cairo figure related to the number of aircraft shot down by a single squadron during 6½ months of war in the Western Desert.—Reuter.

Comparative Quiet at Bardia

London, Dec. 30.

There appears to have been no action on either side at Bardia, Italian stronghold in north-east Libya, except small patrol activity and artillery and air bombardments.

There is no reason to believe that the lack of food and water will force the Italians in Bardia to surrender in the near future.

While Bardia may not be completely surrounded, it is fairly certain that no large body of Italians could get out of the port without a fight.—Reuter.

Italian Claims

Rome, Dec. 30.

Italian forces have increased their artillery and scouting activity on the Bardia front and flying mechanized columns, aided by planes, destroyed a number of British armoured cars, an official communique said yesterday.

Cavalry skirmishes and artillery activity occurred on the Sudanese frontier, the communique declared.

Italian planes bombed British supply bases in the Mediterranean and British bombers attacked Italian positions in Ethiopia, it said.

"Two torpedo-carrying planes scored hits on a British monitor and destroyer," the communique claimed.—United Press.

Franco Demands Canary Islands Base

Madrid, Dec. 30.

Generalissimo Franco yesterday demanded a military base at Las Palmas, in the Canary Islands off French East Africa. Gen. Franco published a decree calling for "urgent" expropriation and acquisition of territory at Las Palmas for construction of a large artillery base.—United Press.

The King Attends Convoy Conference

London, Dec. 30.

Arriving unexpectedly, the King yesterday attended one of the informal conferences at which captains of merchantmen and escorting warships meet and discuss their problems before leaving.

Skippers and naval personnel were seated together round a table receiving instructions from a naval captain when the King walked into the room, accompanied by the commander-in-chief of the port.

At these conferences, which are always held a few hours before a convoy sails, the position each ship shall take is decided as well as the methods to be adopted in case of attack either by a surface raider or U-boat or aircraft.

The King was shown a chart of the position each ship would take, and also where escorting warships would be positioned, and he listened to the discussions at the conference.

Afterwards His Majesty met the skippers and talked with them individually. Several of the skippers were from allied countries. The commodore of this convoy was a Dutchman, and the King had a long talk with him.

Greek Prince Visits Albanian Front

Athens, Dec. 30.

Crown Prince Paul of Greece was given an enthusiastic reception when he visited Greek troops on the Albanian front during the week-end and inspected a military hospital.

During his trip he met a Greek column on the march, and was offered a captured Italian revolver by a non-commissioned officer. When the Prince told the N.C.O. to keep it as a souvenir, the latter replied: "Take it your Highness, I shall be proud to get another."—Reuter.

Rome Denies Presence Of Nazi Troops

Madrid, Dec. 30.

Reports that German troops are in Italy, are officially denied in Rome, says the Rome correspondent of the newspaper "A.B.C." The rumours are of foreign origin, he states.—Reuter.

Americans Make Gift of Bomber

London, Dec. 30.

A Hudson bomber named "Spirit of Lockheed and Vega" has just arrived in Britain from the United States.

This powerful machine, built in their spare time by the managers and employees of the Lockheed Aircraft Company and the Vega Aeroplane Company, is a gift to the British nation.—Reuter.

Greeks Try to Cut Italian Lines

London, Dec. 30.

The Greeks are trying to obtain command of the cross-roads at Berat, and also of a point 11 miles south-east of Valona, Reuters learned in authoritative quarters here today.

Should the Greeks succeed, it would leave the Italians only a single road from Tepeleni along which to retreat or to bring up supplies.—Reuter.

British Bomb Valona

Athens, Dec. 30.

British warplanes "successfully bombed" shipping and objectives near Valona on Saturday despite extremely bad weather, the Royal Air Force Headquarters said yesterday.

"Heavy bombs were seen to burst approximately 50 yards from a large ship, but other results were not observed owing to low clouds," the R.A.F. said.

"All bombs, however, fell on the target area."

Meanwhile, it was announced that the submarine Papanicolis, which on December 24 sank three Italian troop transports in the Straits of Otranto, had been awarded a War Cross of the First Order in recognition of its services.

The crew was recognized with the order of Third Class.

"The commander of the Greek destroyer Aetos, Capt. Economou Kawared, was awarded a War Cross of the First Order for sinking an Italian submarine in the face of "overwhelming odds."

Greeks Advancing

Greek troops captured three additional villages north-east of Chimara on the coastal sector after storming heights to an altitude of 1,500 metres, it was officially announced.

The Italian troops, including some Bersaglierie freshly flown in from Italy, were heavily defeated north of Klisura in south-central Albania, where with the support of tanks they attempted to drive down the Klisura-Berat road, the official communique said.

Mopping up of the Italian rear-guard was still proceeding between Klisura and Chimara with many Italians taken prisoner, including officers, it was said.—United Press.

Italian-French Frontier Closed Suddenly

Vichy, Dec. 30.

Following the recent hermetic closing of the frontier of the German-occupied zone until January 6, the United Press learned yesterday that the French-Italian frontier also had been closed for no specific duration or reason.—United Press.

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Miscellaneous

Asiatic Fleet Now Stronger

Twelve Submarines, Including Squalus, Arrive At Manila ; Powerful Air Squadrons Assembled

Manila, Dec. 24.

TWELVE large United States submarines, including the reconditioned Squalus, have arrived at Manila during the past two weeks, giving the Asiatic Fleet its largest total concentration in history, it was revealed today.

The U.S. concentration now consists of the cruisers Houston, Marblehead and Cincinnati, three divisions of destroyers, 26 long-range patrol bombers, the aircraft carrier Langley, 18 large submarines and six S-boats, plus a train of supply ships.

The Squalus, 299-feet long, sank in 240 feet of water in May 23, 1939, during a routine diving cruise off Portsmouth, N.H. Thirty-three of the crew of 59 men escaped by means of a "diving bell."

Modern Planes

The Army's known first-line strength in the Philippines has reached a peak of 80 planes, consisting of three pursuit squadrons, one observation squadron and one bombing squadron.

Selfridge Field's 17th Squadron now has fully assembled a number of Republic fighters ordered by Sweden and requisitioned by the United States—instruments of which still were marked in the Swedish language.

The Air Force claimed the Republics to be the "sweetest" planes in the Far East, able to outfight anything at present in the Far East.

Nichols Field has been converted into a pursuit base, with bombers and observation planes based elsewhere.

The land forces at present consist of approximately 10,000 U.S. Regulars, plus the Philippine Scouts. There are 12 divisions of trained Filipino Regulars and Reserves.

Philippine officials were hopeful that Washington would appropriate US$50,000,000 from the sugar tax refunds and gold revaluation payments to provide armaments for the Filipino Army.

Meanwhile, there apparently had been little progress made at Washington in determining whether the United States or the Philippines would be responsible for civilian defence, including air raid precautions and food storage.—United Press.

Hawaii-Singapore "Road"

Washington, Dec. 24.

The United States Navy had "blueprinted" a "road" from Hawaii to Singapore, it was learned yesterday.

The road involved fueling, supply and anchorage bases at Palmyra, Canton, Howland, Baker and the Samoan Islands, Port Moresby and Port Darwin in Australia.

Australian co-operation had been assured, although formal agreements had not been signed, it was understood. Discussion was said to have been limited to informal conversations.—United Press.

Hawaii to Have Flying Forts

Washington, Dec. 29.

United States Army officials revealed yesterday that the War Department had redesignated the 18th Bombardment Wing of the Army at Hickam Field, Hawaii, as a heavy type wing, and soon would replace the present medium-type B18 bombers there.

The B18 bombers now at Hawaii may be sent to the Philippines, it was stated.

Army officials, however, were unable to reveal when the "flying fortresses" would be sent to Hawaii, in view of the large number to be sent first to Great Britain. "We will send them as soon as production makes the planes available," it was declared.

The Army also revealed the formation of three new squadrons of the Hawaiian Air Force—the 59th Light Bombardment Squadron, the 44th Pursuit Squadron in Wheeler Fields, 14th Pursuit Wing, and the 19th Transport Squadron at Hickam Field.—United Press.

U.S. Consulate Opens At Vladivostok

Moscow, Dec. 25.

Mr. Angus Ward, first secretary and Chief of the Embassy's Consular Section, will leave Moscow on Friday to become first United States Consulate-General at Vladivostok, it was learned yesterday. He will be accompanied by a temporary staff, including Mr. Donald Nichols, Vice-Consul at Moscow, and a Russian clerk.—United Press.

400 U.S. Warcraft May Go to China

New York, Dec. 30.

At least 400 warplanes may be released to China by the United States, the New York "Herald Tribune" said today.

Quoting authoritative Washington quarters, the "Herald Tribune" said at least 400 pursuit planes and bombers, including six of the United States Army's famous Boeing "Flying Fortresses," may be placed at China's disposal by the United States.

The New York "Herald Tribune's" despatch from Washington came right after President Roosevelt's "fireside chat" broadcast last night in which he said that the United States would grant China further aid.

All Possible Aid

President Roosevelt, after lauding China's heroic resistance against Japan, promised all possible material aid to China.

The "Herald Tribune's report indicated that the United States would provide China with vitally-needed aerial equipment.

The United States at the end of November granted China a loan of U.S.$50,000,000 and made arrangements for an early allocation for another U.S.$50,000,000 for purposes of monetary protection and management as between American and Chinese currencies.

The White House at that time also announced that the U.S. Metal Reserve Company was arranging to purchase U.S.$60,000,000 worth of tin, wolframite and antimony from China.—United Press.

Scrap-Iron Shipment Definitely Stopped

San Francisco, Dec. 29.

Two Chinese seamen appeared yesterday to be victorious in their three-year patriotic effort to keep a US$64,000 consignment of scrap iron from being shipped to Japan.

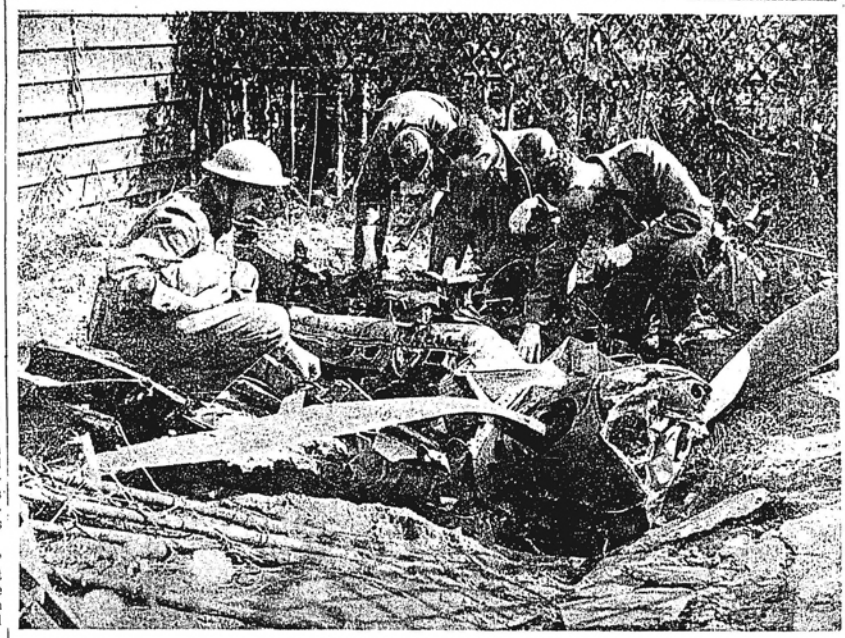
The Chinese, Mr. Jue Tsi-chow and Mr. Wang Kee-fook, saw the Chinese schooner Kwangyuan sold yesterday to Sir Walter Carpenter of Sidney, Australia, for South Seas and Pacific trade.

A Japanese firm bought the schooner Edna Christenson from a Chinese in 1937 and changed its name, but the Chinese Consul at San Francisco refused to clear the ship, which was loaded with scrap iron for Japan.

The United States Supreme Court finally ruled the Chinese Government could expropriate the ship, permitting its sale to another party.

The vessel will be transferred to Panamanian registry, it was learned.

Mr. Jue and Mr. Wang were the only remaining members of the original crew of 23 Chinese.—United Press.



Shot Down in London's Outskirts

A German bomber returning after taking part in an early morning raid on London was shot down in the outskirts. The plane crashed on a row of houses, setting fire to one of them, and broke into pieces. Attempts had been made to disguise the plane, which had the swastika blacked over. The yellow nose indicated that the plane belonged to Goering's picked squadron. It had also been painted over. The picture shows servicemen examining the nose.

Increased Nazi Raids in Pacific

Reports of Nazi Vessels Using Japanese Ports Said "Highly Probable"

Washington, Dec. 30.

Reports from Manila that German sea raiders were being armed in Japanese ports were characterized by naval circles yesterday as being "highly probable," although the reports could not be officially confirmed.

The reports drew wide attention throughout the country. Metropolitan papers displayed the story prominently.

Navy Department officials declined to discuss the reports, saying that they had no official information and pointing out that even if such information had been received from official sources it could not be divulged.

Unofficially, naval sources said it would be natural for Germany to attempt to transfer raider activities to the Pacific, where British commerce was especially wide-spread and vulnerable. They pointed out that Great Britain had only small concentrations of sea power in the Pacific with which to hunt down and destroy raiders.

These circles said it was quite possible that Germany would outfit such vessels in Japan or Japanese controlled areas, since such an action would be most difficult to prove and be virtually impossible to counteract.

It was pointed out that the Pacific provides an unlimited number of refugees and hide-aways for Nazi raiders and supply ships, almost all near important British trans-Pacific sea lanes.

Naval men in Washington expressed the opinion that effective countermeasures to such a campaign of commerce raiding would be essential in case the present reports were confirmed.—United Press.

Mr. Shigemitsu Visits Mr. R. A. Butler

London, Dec. 23.

Mr. Mamoru Shigemetsu, Japanese Ambassador to Great Britain, called upon Mr. Richard Butler, Foreign Under-Secretary today, it was announced.

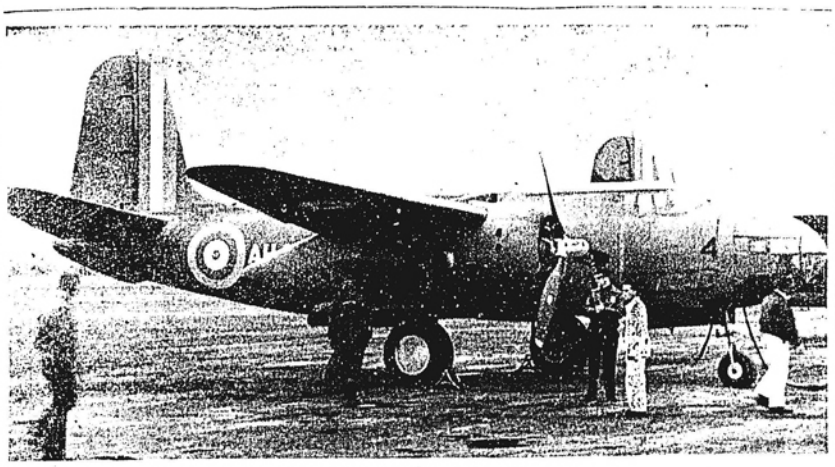
The Japanese envoy exchanged views with Mr. Butler regarding the international situation, including the recent change in the Foreign Secretary post.

Meanwhile, it was learned that Mr. Butler will remain Foreign Under-Secretary for the time being but it is understood this would not be for long.—Domei.

Gen. Short to Command Army at Hawaii

Washington, Dec. 28.

Major-General Walter C. Short, Commander of the First United States Army Corps with headquarters at Columbia, S.C., will sail on January 31 from San Francisco to assume command of the Hawaiian Army Department, the War Department announced yesterday.—United Press.



American Bombers for Britain

A new type Douglas DB-7A bomber is shown shortly before it was shipped to England with many others of various makes to aid the British nation in its fight against the totalitarian powers. American planes have proved far better than the best the Nazis can turn out to date.

Heir to Furness Wealth Reported Missing

London, Dec. 24.

A British officer who was reported "missing, believed dead" is the chief heir to the Furness millions. He is the Honourable Christopher Furness, son of Viscount Furness, shipbuilder and industrialist who died in October leaving unsettled estate valued at over £3,661,000 on which £1,850,000 estate duty has been paid.

Viscount Furness left seven-eighths of the residue of his property upon trust for his son Christopher.

It was revealed yesterday that in spite of far-reaching inquiries no news of Christopher has been received since he fell leading his platoon in France on May 24. No one has seen him dead. There is no information of his being a prisoner of war. Inquiries in France have had no result.

It is considered that the succession to the title cannot be determined until the end of the war. In the event of the death of Christopher Furness being presumed, the new Lord Furness will be the 11-year old William Anthony, son of the Viscount by his second wife, now Mrs. Thelma Converse. William Anthony was bequeathed the remaining eighth of the residue of the Viscount's property.—Reuter.

Italy Gets Food Dictator

Rome, Dec. 30.

Premier Mussolini yesterday appointed Sig. Giuseppe Tassinari, Minister of Agriculture, as virtual food dictator, with power surpassing Mr. Herbert Hoover's in Belgium during the World War.

Sig. Dino Grandi, Minister of Justice, meanwhile issued a decree that the death sentence would be given to those guilty of hoarding or speculating in connection with food supplies.—United Press.

British Railways Busy

London, Dec. 30.

A review of the work of British railways during 1941 shows how problems caused by evacuations, bombing and weather were overcome

On a single day some months ago, 72 troop trains were run by one railway alone, while after the evacuation at Dunkirk 620 trains carrying 200,000 troops were run within eight days.—Reuter.

U.S. Bomber Crashes

Havana, Dec. 24.

A United States Marine bomber of the SBD 1 type and a member of a squadron bound for Guantanamo, Cuba crashed yesterday in a torrential rain on a farm near Santiago, killing two crew members.—United Press.

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SPECIAL ARTICLES

TRAGEDY OF COVENTRY

By O. M. GREEN

It seems fairly obvious that Hitler must have flown into one of his paroxysms over the bombing of the beerhall at Munich and ordered vengeance no matter at what cost. Hence the tragedy of Coventry. It was a more than usually brutal deed as the Germans flew so high to escape the A. A. guns that aiming was impossible. And in fact one gathers that the factories escaped far better than the rest of the city. The destruction of the beautiful old 14th century Cathedral is the sort of thing that only a German would do.

Coventry will of course increase the demand for reprisals of the same sort. And as one goes about London seeing the damage done to churches and historic buildings such as the Temple, one feels strongly moved to join in the cry. But we are not barbarians and what the R.A.F. is doing hurts Hitler more than if we blew up Cologne Cathedral.

For example, Hamburg is possibly more bombed by the R.A.F. than any place in Germany except the Hamm railway yards. (Our airmen are absolutely bored with being sent to Hamm.) Hamburg is the second greatest industrial city in Germany with a population of over 1,125,000 people. Its dockyards have produced some of Germany's proudest ships. Most of them are unusable now. The great vegetable oil works, the biggest in Germany, are a ruin. So is the Phoenix rubber tyre factory—warehouses stand roofless, railway traffic is disorganized, power plants cannot supply electricity to the few factories still working. These details have reached England from a trustworthy source, with the further report that the Nazis are moving to Poland such of Hamburg's factories as have escaped the R.A.F. This is worth more than bombing any number of *defenceless civilians.*

* * *

The attack on Taranto and destruction of Mussolini's men-of-war has brought out some interesting details of the aerial torpedo with which the attack was made. Launching one of these torpedoes is a far more difficult and nerve-wracking task than dive-bombing. The pilot must dive to within 50 ft. of the water, if not lower, and then release his torpedo exactly at the moment of flattening out. He must be absolutely indifferent to anti-aircraft fire, and the least error in timing the release of the torpedo means a miss and the waste of £3,000. Once in the water the torpedo travels by its own power.

As far back as in 1916 Great Britain was experimenting with aerial torpedoes, but their weight is considerable; a 21 in. torpedo carries 500 lb. of T.N.T. and the problem was to get the plane to rise when loaded. Now the Fairey Fulmar does it with ease, even from the short run available on an aircraft carrier. We are said to have four different aircraft that will carry aerial torpedoes. The Germans have only two. Of course conditions at Taranto were perfect, the ships lying in open and perfectly calm water, the sort of thing an airman prays for.

* * *

Apropos of bombs here is an illustration of the law at its best. Mr. Leighton-Morris, who lives in Jermyn Street, had been told by his doctors that he has only three months to live. He therefore decided that whether he lived three months, three minutes or three seconds was immaterial if he could first do something of service to his country. Some days ago the house adjoining his flat was struck by a time bomb. Mr. Leighton-Morris immediately climbed over the roof, found the hole, got down into it, found the bomb, picked it up and took it out in the adjoining Green Park.

But it seems that no unauthorized person may touch a time bomb. So Mr. Leighton-Morris was charged at Bow Street with the heinous offence of risking his own life, and possibly saving the lives of several other people, and was actually fined £100 or three months' imprisonment. He said he would go to prison but was allowed a week to think it over.

Then Parliament got on its hind legs. But in answer to questions the Prime Minister hinted that something would be done to prevent this iniquity. Now the fine has been reduced to £5, which Mr. Leighton-Morris says he will pay. But even so, why fine such a brave deed at all? Had Mr. Leighton-Morris been wearing any sort of uniform, it is a medal he would have deservedly got, not a fine.

* * *

While M. Molotov talked in Berlin with Hitler and Ribbentrop (the course of negotiations must have been much helped by the fact that the R.A.F. kept M. Motolov's guests at the Russian Embassy sheltering there till 2.30 a.m.), Mr. Maisky, the Soviet Ambassador, was completing eight years of service in London. When he first came in November 1912, he was a political refugee so poor that he could not raise the requisite £5 for admission. He only had £3. But at length, on proving that he was a member of the Russian Social Democratic Party, he was admitted. Just 20 years later he came back as Ambassador.

For a long time he must have led an irksome life. He was cold-shouldered by the Government and generally treated as a pariah. Early last year, however, during the futile pre-war negotiations for a pact with Russia, M. Maisky came into favour. The late Mr. Chamberlain and other Ministers attended a party he gave in the huge Embassy in "Millionaire's Row" and today he is one of the most popular members of the Diplomatic Corps. He is also its senior member and thus it is for Mme Maisky to instruct the wives and daughters of newly-arrived foreign representatives in the complicated etiquette of diplomacy.

M. Maisky is a friendly person with a charming smile, and a marvel of discretion. The story is told that when he was leaving the House of Commoms, where he had been to watch the vote of confidence in Mr. Churchill's Government in May, a journalist asked his impressions of the changes. To which M. Maisky smiled and shrugged his shoulders. Then as he entered his car he beckoned to the journalist and whispered, "Please do not quote me on that."

* * *

Mrs. Florence Iris Ransom has been found guilty of murdering Mrs. Dorothy Fisher, her daughter and maidservant at a village near Tonbridge Wells; and there is no doubt in anyone's mind that she was guilty. Mrs. Ransom was living with Mrs. Fisher's husband in Oxfordshire, with no objection raised by the wife, who had herself taken a lover. But Mrs. Ransom wanted to marry Fisher, his wife would not divorce him, and that apparently was her offence. Mrs. Ransom borrowed a gun from her brother (she pretended that he and her mother who worked for her were only her servants) got him to show her how to use it on the pretence of wishing to shoot rabbits, chose a day when Fisher was absent, went secretly to Tonbridge and did the deed—the daughter and maidservant, poor creatures, had to be shot in order that there might be none to tell the tale.

Mrs. Ransom was the daughter of a painter and was born in 1904. She seems to have had a passion for posing as a mystery woman, and being much better born than she was. At one time she called herself Lady Iris Cornwallis-West. She disowned her mother and brother and even declared that the former was not really her mother. She married a stockbroker named Ransom but he died a few years afterwards.

Then followed a period of drifting and finally she took up with Fisher. In the village adjoining his farm she continued to pose as someone very superior. Fisher himself never knew of her relationship to her mother and brother though they worked on the farm. She wished to regularize her position with Fisher, or at least to establish a permanent hold on him. At the trial she pleaded that she was liable to fits of giddiness and often forgot what she was doing. But she made false statements and the evidence against her was overwhelming.

ALONG THE HIGHWAYS

Dec. 19.—Sections of our roads are presenting a Christmasy appearance these days and although the long lines of Christmas trees may be causing a certain amount of inconvenience to some people, they certainly do not detract from the appearance of the roads. There are several kinds of trees being offered for sale, but the majority are junipers (*Juniperus chinensis*). This erstwhile garden favourite is not easy to decorate, but its pyramidal habit of growth does make it an excellent substitute for the real article and, what is more important, it is fairly cheap. However, the needle-shaped foliage has a nasty habit of attaching itself to one's fingers and many balloons will shortly terminate their period of usefulness by coming into contact with the points of the "needles." Another tree seen on the roads is the Chinese Fir (*Cunninghamia lanceolata*). This tree is found in many places in the more temperate parts of China, but it is not quite at home here: there are some in local gardens, but they are not good specimens and they will not thrive unless they are given a sheltered position. The *Cunninghamia* has sharply pointed leaves and it somewhat resembles the "Monkey Puzzle" trees that we see in many English gardens. It is a most useful tree, however, as it grows over 80 feet high with a straight trunk. When the tree is cut down, many sprouts appear from the roots and it is these that are imported here for our Christmas shoppers. Several Spruce trees (*Picea asperata*) were noticed close to a few of the shops. This is more like a Christmas tree than the others mentioned, but it is not easy to obtain and the cost is naturally, higher. A number of young Cryptomeria trees were noticed being offered for sale in pots for use as "table trees." The cryptomeria is a handsome tree in its young state and admirable for the purpose. No cedars were observed: these are probably too expensive for the market. Two of the trees noted above are associated with "the long journey." The juniper is generally planted on grave mounds in the country while coffins are made from the wood of the *Cunninghamia*.—W.J.K.

* * *

Dec. 22.—Christmas is close at hand once again and the flower shops are busy preparing for the usual shopping rush. Florists' windows are full of poinsettias, chimonanthus, holly, heavenly bamboo, mistletoe, polyanthus narcissus and evergreen wreaths as well as the usual displays of roses, carnations, primulas, orchids and other plants. The poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*) is one of the most popular plants for the Christmas season. This plant requires no description: its flaming red bracts clustered at the top of the stems, surrounding numerous inconspicuous flowers, are well known. There are also white and pinkish varieties, but these will never become as popular as the red: the double form of the red is, however very striking and when the florists have persuaded this plant to retain its foliage better than it does at present, it may become more universally grown. It appears to require more heat than the more common types, so perhaps we shall have to wait until fuel becomes cheaper before we can hope to see quantities in the shop windows. The Winter Sweet (*Chimonanthus grandiflora*)—or, as it is now known, *Meratia grandiflora*—is another Christmas favourite. The delicious aromatic fragrance of the yellow blossoms appeals to many of us. This Chinese shrub is grown in most gardens here, but in many it flowers very sparsely: this is probably our own fault, for pruning after blooming encourages it to produce flowering stems for next Christmas and few of us take the trouble to prune the shrubs. The action of cutting flowering stems for the house at this time of the year, automatically prunes the shrubs and as the blossoms are more decorative in vases than on the shrubs, there is no reason why we should not give the plants all the encouragement they require to flower more abundantly. The Heavenly Bamboo (*Nandina domestica*) is a graceful shrub at all times of the year; but at Christmas, the handsome terminal clusters of red berries are a great help in giving the Christmas touch to our interior decorations. The polyanthus Narcissus (*Narcissus Tazetta*) we see in all the shops, is the well-known Chinese "luck lily." There appears to be some doubt about the origin of this flower. It is said by some writers that the plant is a native of Spain and that it was introduced into China by Portuguese traders. Others refer to it as the Chinese form of the polyanthus narcissus. The first belief is probably correct for our "luck lily" was the classical narcissus of Homer, the great Greek poet. —W.J.K.

* * *

Dec. 26.—We were in Jessfield Park yesterday morning, not recuperating from a too hectic Christmas Eve, but with a view to enjoying a change from the daily routine. We had the park almost to ourselves and everything was so nice and peaceful: just like it should be on Christmas Day. The greenhouses were our first objective and we spent some time strolling through these and enjoying the flowers on display. There were hundreds of poinsettias in full glory: some were huge chappies, and others the usual size: they were, as is to be expected at this time of the year, the dominating feature of the display. There were many primulas just commencing to bloom, and amongst them we saw an orange-coloured variety that we liked very much. In another "house" we noticed winter-flowering Sweet Peas in flower. These plants always have a weak appearance at this time of the year, but we observed some most attractive shades of colour. Streptocarpus plants were seen in flower elsewhere and we noticed hundreds of "babies" of the same plants: these are special favourites of ours and we shall look forward to seeing them in bloom in due course. Our second objective was the Zoo. We missed the Kangaroo and the Blue Sheep and mourn their loss. In passing, it may be mentioned that we have recently had news of the parents of the Blue Sheep. These were at one time in the Jessfield Zoo and they are now reported to be huge animals and attracting a large number of visitors to a well-known Zoological garden in the United States. The donkey greeted us in its usual way, but the aggressive swan did not show itself. We noticed some very atractive birds on display, the chief of which were the "Parrot Hawks" (we believe this term is correct, but we are open to correction). If they are the birds we believe them to be, they must be rare here: for we remember that it was difficult to obtain them at one time. Old age must have taken "Sister," the Malayan Bear, and as we stood by the empty cage, memories of many a tussle came back to us. We returned to the Brenan Road entrance after having enjoyed our busman's holiday and were given a good send-off by the people who must miss the generosity of the "Tommies." We thought that the "No mamma, no pappa, no whisky soda," was more plaintive than it used to be.—W.J.K.

Literary Effort

WE had been talking about Fred Corby when he pushed open the door and walked in. He stood there for a moment, grinning, his brown, fawn-like eyes taking in everybody at Ranger's bar.—From "Country Growth," by August Derleth, page 263, paragraph 1.

Fred Corby was justice of the peace for his second term——For all that, he looked like a sleek, black mouse, and he acted like one: his beady little black eyes shifting around..—Same book, same page, paragraph 3.

—Vacillating character, this Corby!

* * *

Pertinent Points for Men

AFTER the grilling the ladies received recently in your column, I am waiting patiently for a few "Pertinent Points for Men" to appear.

Herewith a few to get on with.—J.K.W.

Do you treat your girl friend as though she were a sweet half-wit?

Do you rhapsodize about some other girl to your present lady friend?

Do you walk with your toes turned in?

Are you a jerky dancer who hugs too tight?

Do you register a self-conscious smirk when speaking to a member of the opposite sex?

Do you spread your few remaining hairs over your pate.

Do you think every girl who is pleasant to you is running after you?

Do you philander with a friend's wife as being more exciting than honourable courtship?

STRAY NOTES

Dec. 15.—Trying to think of a seasonable topic, the Mistletoe came to my mind, and although there is a fund of folk-lore on this subject I will try to take a different angle. I set aside the well-known facts and fancies of the books of reference....how the plant was named from the winter-mists, so that Mistletoe really means "the twig of gloom": how the berry was supposed to be poisonous and so was used on the arrow which slew the Scandinavian god of light; how it is banned as a Church decoration because the naughty Druids, instead of kissing the girls under the mistletoe, used it as a decoration when they slew them as human sacrifices. Instead of all these things I will tell how the mistletoe is one of nature's grim jests—a paradoxical pleasantry worthy of the late Mr. Gilbert. *Viscum album* (shall we call it?) is a semi-parasite growing in Europe on apple-trees—rarely on hawthorn and oak—and elsewhere on such trees as willow, ash and maple: the parasitic seedling grows through the bark into the wood, from which it extracts water and mineral salts, but manufactures all its other food requirements through its leaves, and so is semi-independent. All this sounds quite easy, but the problem is, how can such a semi-parasite spread its kind from tree to tree? And the answer is that the birds, because of their habits, are the only creatures which can do it: nature hides the seeds in the viscous juice of the white berries; juice and seeds stick to birds' beaks; birds fly to another tree or branch and wipe beaks on bark; seeds stick to bark; seeds take root, grow and produce more berries. Then, when there are plenty of berries, men come and make birdlime out of the juice! And so the birds are caught in a trap of their own creation—executed or imprisoned for life as a reward for helping nature in her work. And when we remember that the only other source of birdlime is the inner bark of the Holly—we may well believe that the ancients "had it in" for the birds when they invented Christmas decorations.—E.S.W.

* * *

Dec. 17.—Reading a story of Magpies mobbing a tree already occupied by nesting birds reminded me of many similar incidents which I have recorded in the past: my impression is that the birds on such occasions are merely wanting to roost in the tree, and not to use it for nesting, since Magpies are solitary nesters and not communal in their habits like their cousins the Rooks; a mob of Rooks will attack a free where Magpies are nesting, tear the nest to pieces and occupy the tree as a rookery, but they are really the only local birds which resort to mob law with any success: mixed mobs of small birds will attack an owl or hawk, and it is amazing how, sometimes, two or three quite small birds such as Swallows, Bulbuls or Wagtails will scare away a powerful bird of prey. Nesting Magpies are seldom lacking a fight of some sort in defence of their trees, for they attack all comers: only the other day quite a large party of Night Herons from the Avenue Haig (perhaps weary of the Ta Tao government) tried to settle in my poplar trees: but in spite of their large numbers and long bills they were soon disposed of by Maggie and Father, and they departed (literally) with their tails between their legs....for that is the way Herons fly. Sparrows, in spite of their numbers, seldom attack or defend in mobs, and Blackbirds are always far too busy fighting among themselves even to think of such tactics. On the whole birds are not clever mob fighters—either in attack or defence. Many animals, on the other hand, are much better at this form of warfare. Wolves hunt in packs: monkeys follow the mob law: and smaller animals such as rats and even weasels attack dangerously in numbers. Which reminds me of a story culled from an American magazine, for the truth of which I certainly cannot vouch. Two rabbits chased by two foxes took refuge in a hollow tree: the foxes sat down to wait: "Oh dear, oh dear, what shall we do?" said the trembling lady rabbit: "wait here until we outnumber the enemy," said the gentleman rabbit sternly. And they did.—E.S.W.

* * *

Dec. 19.—In modern parlance the word *alibi* means something much more than its original "being in one place when the crime was committed in another": it now includes an ingenious excuse, a saving of face, a soft answer which turns away wrath, or any quick and clever move which lets the alibi-er out. Women are much better at alibis than men: father, coming home late can think of nothing better than "kept late at the office" or "very long speeches tonight, my dear"—but daughter coming home in the early hours says, "the cinema we went to was so sad, we all had to go dancing to try and forget it"—(and can you beat that for an injured innocence alibi?). Cats don't bother about alibis but dogs do, and it is an education to see a dog suddenly remembering an appointment in the village, or going off to hunt a couple of sparrows, when the local canine bully comes in sight. Most birds are too nervous to be good at alibis, but the Titmouse which comes to feed on my strings of peanuts has worked up an ingenious technique: sparrows are waiting to pounce on him as soon as he has loosened a kernel with his sharp little bill, so just when the nut can be released with one more peck, the Titmouse (seeing the waiting sparrows) dashes off into a box hedge and disappears....to return and grab his nut as soon as the sparrows have gone. That alibi works every time. Nesting Magpies try to create an alibi every time they find you looking at them; the favourite one is to sit and gaze sulkily at the house next door until you look the other way; or if that does not succeed, to fly to the top of another tree and start yelling blue murder to distract your attention from the home tree. All these and many other alibis I know by heart, and it just breaks me up to think that I have lived all these years and never thought of that one about the sad cinema show.—E.S.W.

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IN PARENTHESIS

Stern Devotion

"SIR," said the astronomer, "I have devoted thirty years to the stars."

"Good heavens!" cried the young man. "But don't you find it expensive? It's cost me fifty thousand in two years for the chorus."

• • •

Matter of Faith

"Do you believe in prayer?" little Peter asked the vicar.

"Of course I do!" said the vicar.

"Do you think if I prayed hard enough I would get a nice big gold watch like you've got?"

"Certainly, if you had as much faith as I have."

"Well," said Peter, after thinking a moment, "you give me your watch, and you pray for another!"

Lost Both Ways

JONES was watching a League match, when a friend came and sat beside him.

"Hullo, old man," said the latter. "I thought you were so disgusted with Chelsea's play that you were never coming here again?"

"Well," said Jones, "I'll tell you what happened. My mother-in-law is staying with us just now, and I tossed up whether to stay at home or come here—and I lost."

• • •

Out of Turn

FREDRIC March was escorting Betty Field—with whom he worked in "Victory"—through the dressing room building at Paramount. The halls are lined with pictures of numerous stars.

"My goodness," said Miss Field, "who is that atrocity?"

"That," sighed March, "is some ham made up as Hyde in 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.'"

Miss Field blushed. March won the Academy award for the role.

Orders

WHEN did your men last change their shirts?" asked the officer of the sergeant-major.

"A week ago, sir," replied the sergeant-major.

"Tell them to change their shirts again today."

"They can't, sir," was the protest. "They have no other spare shirt."

"But," retorted the officer haughtily, "Army Orders must be obeyed. Tell them to change shirts with one another."

• • •

Converted

"WHAT is a traitor in politics?" asked the son and heir.

"A traitor, my son," replied his father, "is a man who leaves our party and goes over to the other side."

"Well, then," persisted the boy, "what is a man who leaves his party and comes over to your side?"

"That, my boy," said his parent, with conviction, "is a convert."

Economics

POLITICAL Speaker: "All we need do, my friends, is to keep a working majority."

Voice From the Rear: "You're wrong there. What this country needs is a majority working."

• • •

Vocalist

IT was the end of the summer, and the season had been a bad one. The nigger minstrel had found it hard to make a living, and perhaps his approach to certain passers-by might have been called begging.

In any case, the policeman passing by thought it might. Pushing his way through the small crowd in the theatre queue, the arm of the law tapped the nigger minstrel on the shoulder.

"Now, then, my man," he said sternly, "you just accompany me."

The minstrel picked up his banjo and retorted: "Certainly, officer. What are you going to sing?"

THE AFTERMATH OF CHRISTMAS

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THE BOOK PAGE

Unseen Force of Modern Ideas Gathers Strength in China

Destiny in China's Own Hands Says Lin Yutang; Where Spirit is Free Civilization Can Survive

THE merit of Lin Yu-tang is that of an interpreter of China to the West. For years the West was quite willing to have its own people interpret China. What a long run Arthur Smith's "Chinese Characteristics" has had, for example. And quite rightly, many old hands will answer. We agree. But how many things "Chinese Characteristics" left out. Lin Yu-tang has come into the field as a Chinese, to challenge thought and redress the balance of old opinion, and his coming marks a great advance in international understandings.

But to keep up the standard he has already set can hardly be considered an easy task. "My Country and My People," the first of the four Lin Yu-tang books the John Day Company have published, gained a merited success. "The Importance of Living" had a good many faults, and it travelled considerably on the reputation of its predecessor volume. "Moment in Peking," a novel, and an excellent novel too, was easily the most ambitious of these three books, and ought to hold a literary place when the others are forgotten. It is a bit of a disappointment therefore to find **"With Love and Irony"** (John Day Co., New York. Illustrated by Kurt Wiese. U.S.$2.75) hardly in a class with these preceding books of Dr. Lin's. But sometimes writers are most read when they are least profound, particularly if they can be read in brief snatches on a great variety of subjects. For the reader who is willing to take Lin Yu-tang in this manner, "With Love and Irony" will fill the need. It has 49 short chapters that take up in all slightly less than 300 pages. Nor need the chapters be read in order. Some of the titles, for example, illustrate this: A Hymn to Shanghai, Mickey Mouse, Ah Fong My Houseboy, The Calisthenics of Kowtowing, A Talk with Bernard Shaw, Basic English and Pidgin.

The reader of this review will have guessed by now that Dr. Lin has gathered his writings of a time before he became world-known and brought them into this present book form. The reviewer remembers many of these in fact. They appeared under the name of "The Little Critic" in the Shanghai publication "The China Critic." They have the Lin Yu-tang quality about them, witty, stimulating, sometimes sophomoric, but always with a willingness to let the chips fly where they will, for or against Chinese or Western ways and thought.

Public Enlightenment Increases

If the reader looks for more than this he will be disappointed, but after this much is said it should be remarked that the last two chapters are quite of a different character from the rest of the book. The one is entitled "The Future of China," the other "The Real Threat: Not Bombs, But Ideas." By an "internal force" in China, says Dr. Lin, China will bring about a stalemate and win her war with Japan.

....But win or lose, China holds her destiny in her own hands...Nothing can stop the force of ideas, of newspapers and pictures and magazines, of movies and radios, of increasing roads and means of communication, of increasing public enlightenment...What has happened is going to continue to happen; the unseen force of modern ideas will take hold of this old, cultured people.

"Hens Will Still Lay Eggs"

General Chiang's prestige will be immeasurably increased, Dr. Lin prophesies; the Chinese people "will be more war-conscious and more militaristic, certainly more nationalistic." But they will also be "more socially conscious," and rural reforms and rehabilitation "will occupy the foremost place in the leaders' minds." China will need foreign capital for rehabilitation and this will give Western democratic powers their opportunity. "But China's international relationships will be characterized by a new and more healthful atmosphere of mutual respect." The war of bombs is destructive, but "hens will still lay eggs and men will not have forgotten how to make omelettes. Sheep will still grow wool and English mills will still turn out tweeds and homespuns." Civilization will not be destroyed so. But a totalitarian State which "sets men as spies upon their fellow men has already begun to destroy civilization. With a nation not so easily regimented, where the spirit of man still remains free, that civilization cannot be destroyed by a war."

These last two chapters show Lin Yu-tang at his best.—D.R.

"Wreckers Must Breathe"

The story of a mystery U-boat base with an undersea entrance by a quiet Cornish village is told by Hammond Innes in **"Wreckers Must Breathe"** (Collins, London, 7/6). The time is August 1939. Walter Craig, a dramatic critic, has gone to Cadgwith for a summer holiday. While he is out for mackerel with a veteran fisherman, Big Logan, their line is pulled taut by "something solid streaking through the water beside the boat." Ashore that same evening the presence of a stranger confirms suspicions in the mind of Logan. A disused mine plays its part. Craig and Logan disappear, as does also Maureen Weston, a novelist who has been commissioned to find them.—D.R.

The Hope That Failed

How remote from the actualities of today are the discussions of the Maginot Line as presented in Pierre Belperron's **"Maginot of the Line"** (Williams & Norgate, London. Translated by H. J. Stenning. With additional matter edited by John E. Cross, 3/6). The defensive policy of France, upon which the entire Maginot system was based, appears from this book to ignore the possibility of entrance through Holland and Belgium and the place of the aeroplane in modern warfare.

> There is no doubt (says the editor, John Cross) that the Maginot Line has changed the whole face of the present war...(France) can devote her energies to prosecuting the war unhampered by fears of blitzkrieg invasion...
>
> The Maginot Line must remain as the greatest single contribution to the assured victory of the Allies. In truth its great bastions are "walls of death" to the invader, and the guardians of peace and security to the fair land of France.

Such quotations as these show how little satisfaction is to be gained from this book, except in so far as one tries to explain the French collapse.

Member of Fifteen Cabinets

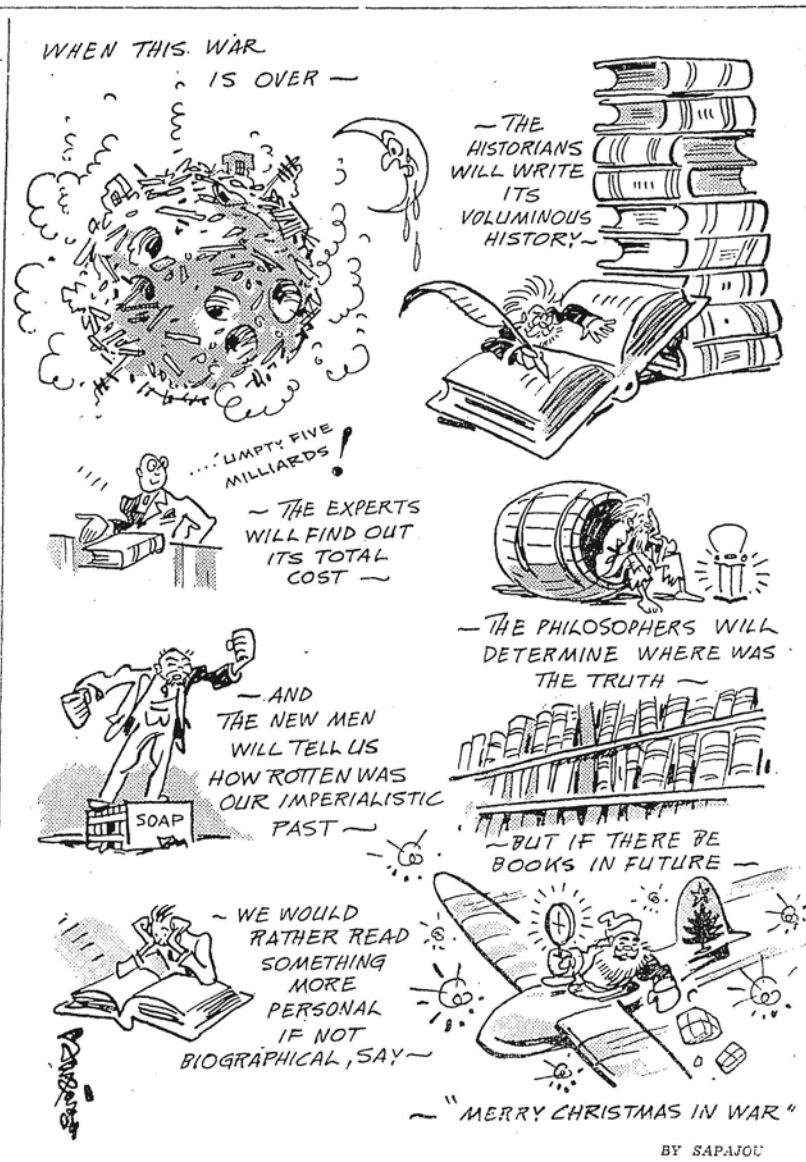
The first part of the book is a short biography of André Maginot, sergeant in the World War, deputy for the Meuse, Minister for Colonies, Minister for War, and holder of other ministerial posts. In fact, his official record for the same length of time is surpassed only by Briand and Loucheur; altogether he was a member of fifteen cabinets and held office in the government more than eight years, of which four were during the World War.

There is a brief discussion, too brief in fact, of the political struggle connected with the building of France's eastern defence line. M. Belperron asserts that Maginot wished to develop a strong air force. Then he hints at subversive forces which prevented this development. The sections dealing with French politics affecting defence measures are too vague to be useful to a serious student of French policy. Maginot's death in 1932 removed him from European affairs during the fateful days of Hitler's rise.

This now unseasonable book, though published in 1940, takes the point of view that Maginot is the saviour of France. Yet there are many observers who hold that the false sense of security engendered in France by means of the Maginot Line was in large part responsible for the French downfall.—F.M.B.

THE Nanking Central Library, which has been closed since the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese hostilities, will be reopened on New Year's Day. The library originally was under the management of the Kiangsu Provincial Government, but at the time of inauguration of the Nanking Government, it was transferred to state control under the name of the Central Library. The library now possesses 230,000 volumes.

THREE young American Franciscans arrived at the Franciscan House of Studies recently in Peiping, where they will follow the Chinese language course. They are Frs. Paul A. Plummer, born in Ireland, Louis Joyce, native of Boston, Mass., and Harold J. Finn, from Winstead, Conn. All three made their final studies at Washington, D.C.



BY SAPAJOU

The Human Touch

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

Britain's Wartime Personalities

Shanghai, Dec. 29.

Outlining the political career of Mr. Anthony Eden, new Foreign Secretary, Mr. John Harford delivered the following address over Station XCDN last evening:—

Perhaps there is no personality in the British Cabinet which, next to Mr. Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister, has so captured public attention and admiration as that of Mr. Anthony Eden, who last week was called upon once again to occupy the all-important office of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in succession to Viscount Halifax, who has been appointed British Ambassador to Washington.

Mr. Eden was born on June 12, 1897, so he is 43 years of age. He was educated at Eton and Oxford, where he took a first class in the Honours School of Oriental languages and was vice-president of the Oxford Universiy Asiatic Society. He served in the World War from 1915 till 1919 and won the Military Cross for bravery on the field. At the end of the war, he was a brigade major.

In July 1926 he became Parliamentary Private Secretary to Sir Austen Chamberlain, then Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and in September, 1931, was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs—an office he held for 3½ years. In March, 1935, following Hitler's announcement that compulsory military service was to be re-introduced immediately in Germany, Mr. Eden accompanied Sir John Simon to Berlin and had important talks with Germany's leaders. From Berlin he went on to Moscow, Warsaw and Prague where he discussed with the leading statesmen of each country problems of foreign policy and armaments.

Where Mr. Eden first showed his real mettle was at Geneva during the debates on the Italian invasion of Abyssinia in 1935. Before that cruel invasion began he visited Rome several times for personal interviews with Mussolini and it seemed at one moment as if he had induced Il Duce to submit his differences with Abyssinia to a conference under the League of Nations, of which Abyssinia was a member. But when Mussolini ordered his blackshirts to march against comparatively unarmed natives, it was largely due to Mr. Eden's strong lead at Geneva that economic sanctions were partially applied to Italy.

As we all know, sanctions against Italy failed of their purpose, but Mr. Eden had at least tried to uphold the dignity of the League and the validity and worth of the Covenant. Throughout 1937 when the Spanish Civil War was raging and when Britain's policy was directed to preventing the war from spreading and maintaining at least a pretence of non-intervention by other Powers. Mr. Eden took a leading part in working out a control system over imports of war materials into Spain, but it was a system which Germany and Italy took little pains to respect. In November, 1937, Mr. Eden made a notable speech in which he denounced "the highly dangerous tendency of modern diplomacy to threaten, proclaim an ultimatum, and call it peace." And he emphasized that although Great Britain would "co-operate with all, she would accept dictation from none."

Only three months later—in February, 1938—an immense sensation was caused by Mr. Eden resigning the Foreign Secretaryship, owing to his disagreement with the late Mr. Neville Chamberlain's appeasement policy, particularly regarding Italy. Mr. Eden's main point was that before any agreement was concluded with Mussolini, he had to prove his sincerity by acts, because his mere assurances had too often been proved false.

On the outbreak of war, Mr. Eden became Secretary for the Dominions and promptly called a conference of Dominion Ministers in London to concert and co-ordinate the means of resistance to Germany. In February of this year he flew to Egypt and made a tour of inspection in Egypt and Palestine. When Mr. Winston Churchill became Prime Minister in May, he appointed Mr. Eden to be Secretary for War, and proof of the fact that Britain's war-time Premier has the greatest trust in and highest regard for his young colleague is now given by putting him once again at the head of the Foreign Office.

In Mr. Eden, Britain has a man who has fearlessly displayed his principles throughout the whole of his brilliant career. At the very centre of his creed lies the conviction that peace and international amity cannot be maintained in this world while men of the gangster and opportunist kind are free to organize and use the strength of their peoples to evil and predatory ends.

He worked for years to avoid the catastrophe through which we are living; when the catastrophe came he threw all his strength into the struggle which he knew to be vital to the future of civilization. The charge that he is a war-monger—made so glibly by those who are arraigned at the bar of world opinion—is refuted by his own political past.

In December, 1938, his speech at the banquet of the National Association of Manufacturers in New York was so much esteemed that it was ordered to be printed in the Congressional Record. The American people believe in Mr. Eden; he speaks their thoughts, he interprets democracy as they would have it continue.

Against the threat of Dictators he matches a serene belief in the victory of right dealing. It is a victory which must be achieved unless the Twentieth Century is doomed to witness the inauguration of another long Dark Age.

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THE WOMAN'S PAGE

A London Letter

BY OLIVE DUN

London, Nov. 25.

Girl Guides are in the news this week for Medals of Merit given to two, who certainly deserved them. Peggy Durlan aged 15, of Dartmouth, went into the river after a little boy who was being swept away by the tide. Peggy is a small girl for her age; the boy exceptionally big and heavy for his five years, and although she is a good swimmer it was all she could do to reach the bank, bringing the boy under her arm.

The other guide is Beryl Smith of Tunstall in Staffordshire. She is only 12 and can hardly swim at all, but she saved her four year old brother who had fallen into a deep part of a lake. She went in and just contrived to get him ashore when she slipped back into water over her head. Luckily her aunt was near and saved her. I don't know whether it is the Guide training, but this tendency to act first and think afterward, which is so conspicuous in the various cases of decorations awarded for acts of heroism which I have written about in recent letters (and how many more there are of which one hears privately, but which win no medals, one can only guess) seem the more welcome in an age when public speakers harp so much on the degenerate tendency of modern youth to seek the safe jobs and to lack initiative. One wonders where the old Jeremiahs would be now without this much-criticized youth. I, for one, am sure that the young people of today are as good as, if not better than, ever their fathers were.

Women Drivers for Overseas

Lord Lloyd, Colonial Secretary, inspecting a contingent of the Women's Overseas Mechanical Transport Corps in London prior to their departure for overseas. Lord Lloyd is with Mrs. Frank Newell, the Commandant.

* * *

Lots of Food

We are settling down to the winter with as much resignation as we usually have towards that not too cheerful season, although turkeys are going to cost 2s. 9d. a pound this Christmas and will be scanty at that, and the pig market is short and the Food Minister thinks that the available supply of pigs had better be turned into bacon rather than pork. It is news that the demand for the latter commodity is so big as it evidently is. Undoubtedly roast pork is very nice: I forbear to quote Charles Lamb at you. But it is a dish which demands a lot of exercise before or after it, preferably both, and thus hardly the thing for city dwellers who contribute regularly to the fortunes of makers of digestive pills.

But some folk have no idea of how to eat. I give you my word that I recently saw a grown man lunching off cold sausages and a glass of hot milk.

Generally, as regards food we ought to be thankful. You can get practically anything in the restaurants that you want and in the house the rationing causes no noticeable inconvenience. All sorts of meat are off the ration, which means that you can buy them freely; for instance, oxtail, liver, calves' head, tripe; and there is plenty of them in the shops. Cakes, biscuits, jams, tinned foods, cooked meats, like pressed beef and galantine, are abundant. Eggs cost 4s. a dozen, when you can get them. But that is more or less normal at this time of year.

I have recently been reading a summary of food conditions in Continental countries, which was obtained from trustworthy sources. Even in Sweden rationing is far stricter than in Britain. And of course wherever the German hoof has trodden food supplies wither like Jonah's gourd. Everything eatable in Denmark, Holland, Norway etc. is swept up for the benefit of the Huns. Yet even so, Nazi air prisoners frequently exclaim with amazement on being given cups of real tea with milk and sugar in it. Yesterday the papers reprinted the account by Swedish correspondents who had made a tour of Germany of what they saw. They particularly remarked on the shop windows being full of plenty of goods, which they were strictly forbidden to sell.

Which throws light on an article in a recent issue of the "Schwartze Korps" the magazine of Hitler's Blackguards, I mean Black Guards, sharply rebuking the public for grumbling. There are even women, it seems, who dare to ask why their men cannot be allowed home where they are wanted, since the army is doing nothing.

St. Clement Danes

It is revealed today as a great piece of news, though thousands of Londoners have known it for weeks past, that the "oranges and lemons" church, St Clement Danes, in front of the Law Courts, has been hit by a bomb. One paper describes it as "one of the most beautiful of Wren's churches" which only shows how tastes differ. It has an attractive spire flanked by two rather squat cupola-topped towers, at the west end; but the nave gives a curious impression from the outside of being oval, which is not pretty.

A bomb struck a gate in the railings, shattered the windows and damaged the walls, but without seriously hurting the fabric. Also the two most valuable things in the church, a stone altar dating from pre-Reformation days, and an exquisitely carved pulpit, were untouched. In 1919 the Rector restored the bells and revived the "oranges and lemons" peal. There is scaffolding about the spire, but the bells do not seem to have been hurt.

I am glad, too, to see that the statue of Dr. Johnson, which stands among trees at the east end, is quite undisturbed. It is a curious statue, suggesting that the Doctor was a small man, whereas I have always pictured him as of the dimensions of Dominic Sampson. He used to worship in St Clement Danes, and his house in Gough Square to the north of Fleet Street, about a quarter of a mile away, is still a show place, though the charming old-fashioned character of the square, as even I remember it, has been quite spoiled by commercialism.

By the way, I wonder what Dr. Johnson, who believed in plain speech if ever a man did, would have said of an address board that I discovered recently near his house. It read, "Association of Correctors of the Press." Once they would have called themselves simply "proof-readers."

But we must have fine titles now. A barber is a "tonsorial artist." An undertaker has become a "mortuarist" who keeps a mortuary parlour." A workhouse is "an institution." A lunatic asylum is a "mental hospital," or often "institution." Bad boys are sent, not to a reformatory, but to "approved schools." A friend of mine on asking for some red stockings which she wanted for a fancy dress dance (this was before the war) was greeted with, "Some cardinal hose? Certainly madam." And, the phrase that always delights me most of all, a bookie, inhabiting the most luxurious offices, calls himself a "turf accountant."

Incidentally, how does he get round the law, while his humbler brother who makes bets in back streets in shillings or sixpences is immediately "pinched" if the police catch him?

* * *

Things Theatrical

The order passed on Miss Fay Compton in a police court this week to pay £3 a month on a dress bill of about three times that sum helps to show how hardly the theatrical profession has been hit by the war. Men and girls who used to draw £50 a week or more are glad now to get £5 in touring companies. Few of them have any money to fall back on, as a "star" was supposed to live up to stardom, and theatrical folk are notoriously lavish while they have any money.

The entertainment companies got up to amuse the troops and airmen provide for but few, and while most of the London theatres remain closed—for the reopening of which I wrote last week has not yet materialized—the big provincial towns, which were formerly a lucrative field, are in the same boat as London in respect of bombs.

Against this, the cinemas seem to be doing much better than might have been expected and the film studios are surprisingly active. At Denham a film is being made of Shaw's "Major Barbara"; which it is hoped will be as great a success as the same studio's film of "Pygmalion." At Shepherd's Bush H. G. Wells' "Kipps" is being filmed, with Diana Wynyard in it and Michael Redgrave. At Teddington they are working on a Disraeli film, "An Empire Was Built" with John Gielgud as Disraeli and Diana Wynyard as his wife. And at Elstree a film is being made on the story of rural England down the ages, beginning with a scene of the Home Guard of today, which fades into England of long ago and shows how always a certain Beacon Hill has withstood invasion—a fine patriotic idea which should make some stirring stuff.

For some reason, possibly that there is less formality and trouble about getting seats, people go to the cinema in the day time far more readily than they do to the theatre, though, from the number of people that I found recently at a very dull lecture which I had to attend as a duty, one would think that the public would go to anything. Why do not the out-of-work actors try a little busking, with a piano on a cart and a cornet or two? There are plenty of possible stands in street corners and the parks where good business might be done. By all accounts a good entertainment party at the seaside can make a lot of money, and we all want something to amuse us nowadays.

Queen and Gibraltar Refugees in London

Queen Elizabeth is shown with refugees from Gibraltar during a visit which she paid to them at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, recently.

* * *

Luxury Cave-Dwelling

One of the most interesting communities now is the huge colony that is living in the chalk caves of Chislehurst. These caves are a well-known show place, they are very big and high, not at all cold, perfectly dry, and, of course, absolutely bomb-proof.

There now dwell no fewer than 4,000 people. Many of them are from southeast London, whose houses have been bombed; others have moved in voluntarily out of dangerous areas. Nearly all go out daily to work, many of them up to London. Electric light has been laid on and electric fans keep the ventilation good. Some have brought down double beds, others have mattresses or bunks. The caves are kept very neat, the colony seem to pride themselves on their appearance.

There is a big canteen which serves hot meals. A barber whose shop was bombed has established himself in the caves and does excellent business.

There is also a church. The rector of Chislehurst, Canon Lumb, decided early that he had a new parish for which to provide. Many of the men readily gave their help. The floor was levelled over a large space, which was then partitioned off, and an altar and pulpit were carved out of the natural chalk. Every evening a short "Good-night" service is held and the congregations are so big, as also at Holy Communion, Mattins and Evensong on Sundays, that the church will have to be enlarged. The caves are not nearly full and arrangements are being made to house another 4,000 in them. One cannot help thinking that after the war many people will have got so used to a greatly simplified life that they will hardly care to load themselves again with possessions, which indeed like Solomon's grasshopper are apt to be a burden.

* * *

The News-Chronicle" is responsible for a strange story which recalls the Angels of Mons. Mr Fowler, a shepherd of Firle, near Lewes, was on the hillside with his sheep when he noticed a white line gradually spreading across the sky. According to him it took the form of Christ on the Cross with six angels around Him. He says that the apparition lasted for about two minutes and then vanished. He hastened to the village to tell what he had seen, and found that others had seen it too. The "News-Chronicle" has made investigations and has found four people, whose names it gives, who claim also to have seen the vision.

Australian Red Cross Finds Waste Products Valuable

Just what comes under the heading of "waste products?" Mrs. George A. Parkes, director of the Red Cross Depot, in Sydney, sums up the answer in one word—"everything." Since the premises opened she has acquired an extraordinarily wide collection, ranging from iron bedsteads to hats and bead necklaces.

Articles which have value for the Red Cross Depot include:

Waste-paper and cardboard, such as newspaper, tissue-paper, brown paper, bags, telephone-books, catalogues, dress-boxes, hat-boxes, shoe-boxes, etc.

Milk-bottle tops, toothpaste tubes, silver paper, and lead products.

Metal objects and utensils such as aluminium saucepans and frying-pans, kettles, and steamers; brass trays, cigarette boxes, tables, and bowls; copper electrical and radiator fittings; copper wiring.

Miscellaneous articles, such as gramophones and gramophone records, clothing, jewellery, and iron bedsteads or similar furniture.

At present rags are not accepted because of the risk of spreading germs. A washing machine would be required to purify them.

Fresh flowers are for daily sale at the depot.

Books and magazines are not sold, but distributed to the troops or patients in Red Cross Hospitals. They are always in demand.

Rubbish Worth Money

At the moment the Government is mainly concerned with salvage of non-ferrous metals and paper. So great is the need for paper conservation that Sir Frederick Stewart's recent appeal to citizens to use waste-paper only for kindling fires, and then in the smallest possible quantities, must be taken quite literally. A single tiny scrap of soiled, crumpled, possibly meat-stained paper is of no value in itself, but added to a million other infinitesimal scraps it will make a ton of pulp and conserve dollar exchange to just that extent. Such soiled scraps of paper are worth today for repulping up to £3.10s. a ton. Similar scraps of brown paper are worth up to £5.10s. a ton. Clean newspapers, which will be used for wrapping before they become material for repulping, are worth up to £16 a ton.

Similarly, unexpectedly high prices can be obtained for all sorts of old rags. These are used partly for paper-making, but are bought mainly by bedding manufacturers for manufacture of "flock." Rubber companies will pay up to £3 a ton for old tyres. Lead is worth 3d. a lb., brass 4d. to 6d., copper 6d., cast aluminium 6d., aluminium 8d., pewter 9d.

There is also a sale for scrap-iron and steel, but a relatively limited one, the local demand being only for best clippings, at about £3. 10s. a ton.

Used cigarette, tobacco, and other similar tins are worth £6 a ton, and large tins, such as jam tins, if the ends of the tins are cut out and the sides rolled out into flat pieces, £12 a ton.

Lord Mayor's Appeal

Every particle of paper or anything made from paper—cardboard, old books, office records, filing cabinets, household packets which have contained tea, rice, and cereals; cigarette packets, luncheon bags and wrappers are wanted. They are turned into pulp at the Australian Paper Mills and used again for other paper products.

If firms such as banks or Government offices have large quantities of confidential documents no longer required, the parcels when delivered are sealed, taken direct to the mills, weighed, and destroyed in the presence of the supervisor.

As well as buying comforts for soldiers, proceeds of the waste-paper collection also help to maintain industries. Thirty-five lorries, manned by uniformed and accredited collectors, are employed to gather it up, and all paper is accounted for with a Government weighbridge ticket. It is calculated at least 500 tons per week could be collected in the metropolitan area.

Colour Scheme Important In House Decorating

Colour is the solution to most decorating problems. It is the foundation and backbone of nearly every room design scheme.

A good colour combination adds more than any other one element in a room but many home-owners show a decided lack of judgment in its use.

It is the least expensive and the most simple way of decorating a home. When economy must be observed in decoration, rich colours may often be made to take the place of handsome materials.

When deciding on the colour scheme for a home some foundation colour must first be selected and then relief and contrast introduced.

There are two kinds of harmony—analogy and contrast.

The harmony of analogy is the harmony of related colours, for instance, green, blue, and yellow, or different tones of the same colour.

Harmony of contrast is that of opposed colours. Blue and orange would make a bad contrast because they are such strong complementaries. On the other hand blue and buff make a contrast but one of less intensity.

Cool and dull colours in a room where the light is cold should be avoided, as should warm colours in a room with warm exposure.

Most warm colours make a room look smaller.

THE

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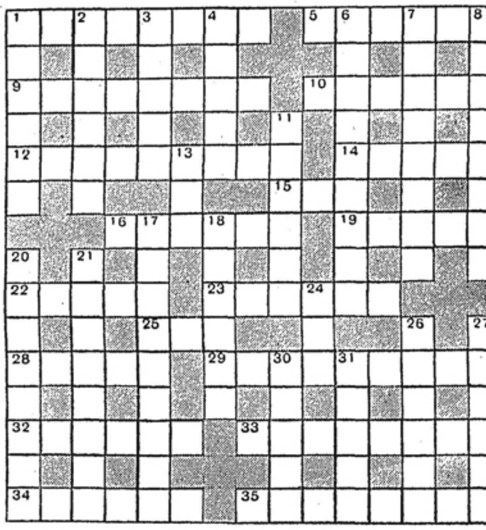
CROSSWORD PUZZLES

(By Arrangement with the "Daily Telegraph.")

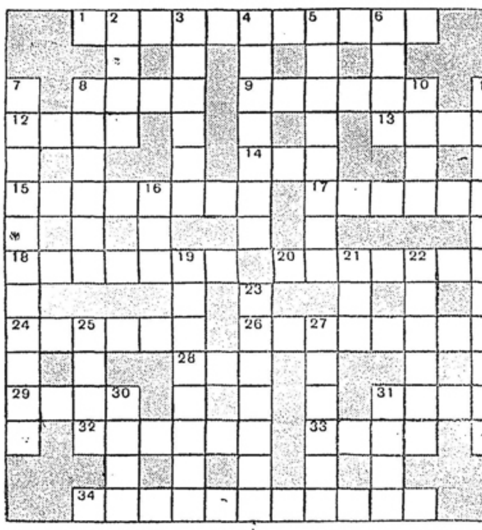


ACROSS

1 As dangerous as a Hurricane! (8)
5 It leads an up and down existence in the afternoon (6)
9 Faithless one that rage need make (8)
10 One can't be all at sea here, surely (6)
12 The answer that turneth away callers (three words—3, 2, 4)
14 Of greater import in India than in Doncaster (5)
15 10 across without mineral (3)
16 Suitable situation for growth of intrigue? (6)
19 Beery-headed but wide awake (5)
22 The way of the world (5)
23 The place for a bull (6)
25 Tree (3)
28 The rash are apt to come to it (5)
29 The biggest gossips this, it's extreme (9)
32 Facing direct, and he a fellow (6)
33 This never dazzles at night (8)
34 Final purppose? (two words—3, 3)
35 Unable to be improved upon (two words—4, 4)

DOWN

1 The right time for jumpers? (6)
2 What is this comes naturally to one (6)
3 There's a fruity start to this affray (5)
4 Those who appear in this are frightfully bucked (5)
6 Hairy case makes a piece of furniture (two words—4, 5)
7 Ask for it in a Chinese restaurant (8)
8 No one this beheaded getting these (8)
11 Show the way (two words—4, 2)
13 Something to put on first part of 32 across (3)
17 In the provinces? (three words—3, 2, 4)
18 The fielder who didn't do it got the captain's this (two words—4, 2)
20 A speculative effort not likely to make a hit (two words—4,4)
21 Go and leave the ruling to someone else (8)
24 Upset in 27 down (3)
26 Visitors to Britain praise them, they're certainly arresting (6)
27 Many may live in this way (6)
30 Upset the cruet (5)
31 Not altogether safe (5)



ACROSS

1 Rumour emanating from petrol fears (two words—5, 6)
8 One bird will do this other one (4)
9 A barbaric destroyer (6)
12 One who brings 11 down (4)
13 Often a tap will lead to it opening (4)
14 Mixed end of 1 across (3)
15 Women keep second half first half of this period of history (two words—4, 4)
17 To win it one needs luck, in lots (6)
18 Child's playthings may be made to startle (7)
20 Brought up to date (7)
24 Take an umbrella if this is about (6)
26 This notice doesn't refer to the reader (8)
28 Not in 4 down (3)
29 Do this before calling the hands (4)
31 Give this scope and it helps the U-boats (4)
32 Angry words by some soldiers caught by the rising sea (6)
33 River that breaks the duck (4)
34 Those happy times before the war? (three words—4, 3, 4)

DOWN

2 Cautious change to crooked (4)
3 Lumbering action by part of Dominion Air Force? (6)
4 Go back in the matter of poetry (7)
5 A conifer (two words—4, 4)
6 Taxis are right on this in America (4)
7 When it comes to this the bombing party casts lots (two words—4, 7)
8 Refreshing form of cartel (6)
10 Cutting this may produce a satisfying slice (4)
11 I find dry ale gives kind help (two words—8, 3)
16 There's nothing to be added (3)
19 Part of the hospital where Drake didn't go? (8)
21 Look for it in a brewery (3)
22 Possess the middle all without whiskers (6)
23 A number once started to cover up (7)
25 As for this, a bull gives more than a magpie (4)
27 The difference between an isthmus and this is neck or nothing (6)
30 Part of the littoral I dote on (4)
31 Weak, and a joke if curtailed (4)

The solutions will be published next week

SOLUTION OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES

TOP PUZZLE.—ACROSS: 1, Request; 5, Curator; 9, Chapter and verse; 10, Ruth; 11, Pipit; 12, Peru; 15, Sardine; 16, Gudgeon; 17, Creased; 19, Bridges; 21, Rose; 22, Lease; 23, Idea; 26, Chocolate creams; 27, Suspend; 28, Hobbema. DOWN: 1, Records; 2, Quarter Sessions; 3, Efts; 4, Termite; 5, Canning; 6, Rive; 7, Three-legged race; 8, Raeburn; 13, Gipsy; 14, Admit; 17, Caracas; 18, Diehard; 19, Beseech; 20, Swansea; 24, Sole; 25, Crib.

BOTTOM PUZZLE.—ACROSS: 1, Whist drive; 6, Pram; 10, Stick; 11, Sinuosity; 12, Shooting; 13, Panic; 15, Eatable; 17, Rostrum; 19, Cowslip; 21, Martini; 22, March; 24, Obsessed; 27, Kidnapper; 28, Nomad; 29, Root; 30, Brilliance. DOWN: 1, Wish; 2, Irish stew; 3, Tokyo; 4, Restive; 5, Vinegar; 7, Reign; 8, May I come in; 9, Composer; 14, Peacemaker; 16, Bald head; 18, Ruined man; 20, Prosper; 21, Mistral; 23, Rodeo; 25, Sinai; 26, Edge.

From Daily News Ads.

At the 28th drawing of the Relief Lottery, the first prize of $50,000 was drawn by ticket No. 24887.

As from December 27, 1940, Mr. A. V. Bleiden is no longer connected with Messrs. J. H. Trachsler, Ltd.

The Shanghai Branch of the Bank of China has opened a new branch office at corner Chengtu Road and Bubbling Well Road, under 526 Bubbling Well Road.

The principal Hire-Car Service Companies announce that as from January 1 their minimum fares will be increased from $2.70 to $3.60 with proportionate increases for longer distances and time.

As from December 23, 1940, the business of Kian Gwan Co., (India) Ltd., Shanghai, has been taken over by, and will henceforth be conducted in the name of Kian Gwan Company (China), Limited.

The Ho Chang Bank, Limited has opened its Shanghai branch at 276 Kiukiang Road. Mr. Kennson Gee has been appointed manager of the new branch office, the cable address of which is "Kengee."

The name of the Kirin Mining Corporation Limited will be struck off the British register of companies at Shanghai and the company will be dissolved unless cause is shewn to the contrary by March 23, 1940.

All persons interested, either as creditors or debtors in the estate of the late Mr. Edouard d'Hooghe de la Gaugerie are requested to apply as soon as possible, to Etude J. Barraud, 41 Rue du Consulat, Shanghai.

The Shanghai Telephone Co. have declared a general and inclusive special tax-saving dividend of Ch.$0.75 on each share of the capital stock of the Company, payable in Shanghai on January 15, 1941.

The December 21 issue of the "China Weekly Review" contains articles on the attempt to muzzle Carrol Alcott and the Titlebaum incident, Nanking's chief source of funds and the new bank scheme, the strike situation etc.

As from December 1, 1940, an office has been opened by the Far Eastern Leather Corporation at 142/144 Embankment Building. A completely assorted stock of leathers imported direct from American manufacturers is carried regularly.

At the Cathedral School (Henry Lester Endowment), Shanghai, next term begins on January 13, at 39 Myburgh Road. Applications for entry should be addressed without delay to Rev. P. C. Matthews, M.A., M.R.S.T., headmaster, 39 Myburgh Road.

Pursuant to a resolution of the board of directors of China Bond & Share Co., Fed. Inc., U.S.A., a 6 per cent. interim cash dividend will be paid on December 31, 1940, on the common capital stock of the company to stockholders of record at the close of business on December 30, 1940.

Prices are still on the upward trend in Shanghai. The Asiatic Petroleum Co., the Standard-Vacuum Oil Co. and the Texas Co. (China) Ltd., all announce increased prices for gasoline effective as from December 31, as follows:

Per American Gallon ex pump $3.40
Per Tin of 5 American gallons $20.00

The Shanghai Race Club announce charity race meetings on January 2, 3 and 4, two-thirds of which will be divided equally between the British War Funds and local charities for the relief of poor Chinese. The meetings are held under the auspices of the Shanghai Race Club and the International Recreation Club.

The China Coasters' Tide Book and Nautical Pocket Manual, 1941, is on sale now at the price of $10, plus postage (China 30c.; Hongkong 60c., abroad $1.20). This is an invaluable handbook of reference compiled for those who sail in China and Far Eastern waters. Orders should be placed with the "North-China Daily News," Shanghai or with any of the principal booksellers.

Holders of the following Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd. debentures to bearer: 6 per cent. issue January 1932, 5½ per cent. issue January 1937 and 5 per cent. issue July 1937, have been notified that the respective coupons No. 18, 8 and 7 representing interest for the half year ending December 31, 1940, at the aforesaid rates will be payable on and after December 31, 1940, at the offices of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Shanghai.

SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction a.m.	Wind (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather Conditions
Dec. 20	30.37	64.6	E/S	2	50.2	47.8	57.4	41.9	O.
,, 21	30.29	66.0	E S E	2	55.9	53.2	65.8	48.9	O.
,, 22	30.07	67.8	F/E	2	59.2	58.3	70.3	56.8	O.
,, 23	30.21	67.6	W N W	2	48.2	47.1	51.6	46.4	R.
,, 24	30.45	66.2	N N W	2	39.9	39.2	45.0	38.3	R.
,, 25	30.60	64.9	N N W	2	40.5	37.6	49.5	37.8	O.
,, 26	30.54	64.6	N	1	41.9	39.0	50.5	38.5	O.

EXPLANATION

B—blue sky F—fog H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds D—drizzle L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Minimum Temperature 1940	Minimum Temperature 1939	Maximum Temperature 1940	Maximum Temperature 1939	Rainfall 1940	Rainfall 1939
Dec. 20	44.0F.	38.0F.	56.0F.	56.0F.	Nil	Nil
,, 21	50.0	43.0	64.0	62.0	Nil	Nil
,, 22	57.0	41.0	68.0	56.0	0.25-in.	Nil
,, 23	47.0	32.0	61.0	49.0	0.18	Nil
,, 24	40.0	33.0	49.0	46.0	0.89	Nil
,, 25	39.0	32.0	48.0	48.5	Nil	Nil
,, 26	—	33.0	—	53.0	—	Nil

CHINA SKIES FOR JANUARY

Phenomena

3.—Earth in Perihelion.
7.—Jupiter in conjunction with the Moon, at 3 p.m. Jupiter 1° N..
7.—Saturn in conjunction with the Moon, at 8 p.m. Saturn 0°3 N.
10.—Saturn at a stationary point.
11.—Mercury at Superior conjunction.
23.—Mars in conjunction with the Moon, at 6 p.m. Mars 5° S.
26.—Venus in conjunction with the Moon, at 4 a.m. Venus 5° S.
28.—Mercury in conjunction with the Moon, at 10 p.m. Mercury 5° S.
30.—Uranus at a stationary point.

Constellations at 8 p.m.

In the north, Capella will pass the meridian, near the zenith. Cassiopeia has just passed the meridian. The Milky Way extends from northwest to southeast. In the east Regulus has just risen, then Proyon (Canis Minoris) and Gemini. In the north Aldebaran (Tauri) and Pleiadas, near the zenith. Orion will soon rise and pass the meridian. In the southeast Sirius. In the south Canopus rises and Achernar has just sunk in the horizon. In the west Pegasus and Andromedes. In the northwest Cygney sets.

Phases of the Moon

	h. m.
5.—First Quarter	9.40 p.m.
13.—Full Moon	7.04 p.m.
20.—Last Quarter	6.01 p.m.
27.—New Moon	7.03 p.m.
6.—Moon in Apogee	1.00 p.m.
19.—Moon in Perigee	4.00 p.m.

RISING AND SETTING OF MOON

Rises h. m.	Souths h. m.	Sets h. m.
1.— 9.11 a.m.	2.54 p.m.	8.40 p.m.
5.—11.32 a.m.	5.51 p.m.	......
10.— 2.42 p.m.	9.39 p.m.	3.46 a.m.
15.— 7.22 p.m.	1.11 a.m.	7.56 a.m.
20.—	5.31 a.m.	11.22 a.m.
25.— 4.46 a.m.	10.06 a.m.	3.32 p.m.
30.— 8.21 a.m.	2.18 p.m.	8.18 p.m.

RISING AND SETTING OF SUN

Rises h. m.	Mean Apparent m. s.	Sets h. m.
1. —6.58	add 3.26	5.09
8. —6.59	add 6.36	5.14
15.— 6.59	add 9.21	5.20
22.— 6.57	add 11.34	5.26
29.— 6.54	add 13.10	5.32

Aspects of Principal Planets

Mercury in the Constellation Sagittarius, enters the Constellation Capricornus at the end of January. Rises on the 1st at 6h. 42m. a.m. and on the 16th at 7h. 24m. a.m., southeast by east. Morning Star. Stellar magnitude—0.6 on the 1st—1.1 on the 16th.

Venus in the Constellation Scorpis moves through Sagittarius. Rises on the 1st at 5h. 03m. a.m. and on the 16th at 5h. 30m. a.m. southeast by east. Morning Star. Magnitude —3.4.

Mars in the Constellation Libra, moves through Scorpio, enter Sagittarius at the end of January. Rises, on the 1st at 3h. 48m., on the 16th 3h. 36m. a.m. Morning Star rising southeast by east.

Jupiter, in the Constellation Aries, rises on the 1st at 1h. 03m. p.m., on the 16th at 0h. 04m. p.m. and sets on the 1st at 2h. 01m., on the 16th at 1h. 04m. a.m. Visible during the first part of the night, fine object of observation. Magnitude —2.2 and —2.1 in conjunction with the Moon on the 17th.

Saturn, in the Constellation Aries, moves retrograde till January 10 (Stationary point). Rises on the 1st at 1h. 13m. p.m., on the 16th at 0h. 14m., p.m. Not far from Jupiter. Sets on the 1st at 2h. 11m. a.m. and on the 16th at 1h. 12m. a.m. Fine to observe with its rings. Magnitude +0.5. In conjunction with the Moon on the 7th.

Uranus, moving retrograde till the end of the month, in the Constellation Taurus (Stationary on the 30th). Rises on the 1st at 1h. 52m. p.m. and on the 16th at 0h. 52m. p.m. Sets on the 1st at 1h. 52m. p.m. and on the 16th at 0h. 52m. p.m. Sets on the 1st at 3h. 22m. a.m., on the 16th at 2h. 22m. W. 21° N. Magnitude 6.

Neptune, in the Constellation Virgo, moves retrograde. Rises on the 1st at 11h. 07m. p.m. on the 16th at 10h. 08m. p.m. East. Sets on the 1st at 11h. 17m. a.m. and on the 16th at 10h. 18m. a.m. West. Magnitude 8.

Lunar Occultations Visible Here

Date Jan.	Star	Mag.	Phase	Age of the Moon d.	S'hai M.T. h. m.	P
9	B.D.+16°559	7.5	D	11.7	8.34 p.m.	53°
15	0 Leonis	3.8	D	17.8	11.04 p.m.	169
15	0 Leonis	3.8	R	17.8	11.46 p.m.	229
20	2 Librae	6.3	R	23.0	4.41 a.m.	335

SHIPPING NEWS

Due at Future Dates

All vessels are listed under their terminal port. The first date is that of the ship's departure from that port and the second is the date she is due to arrive in Shanghai. Where a ship's name is duplicated it indicates the port of call last visited.

On account of the present international situation, publication of the movements of vessels of several leading shipping lines are not permitted to be published.

AMERICA AND JAPAN

From New York
Reinholt — 5/1
Kyusyu M — 6/1
Wichita — 23/1
Vasaland — 31/1
P Monroe — 5/2

From Los Angeles
K'kura M 8/12 6/1
Yawata M — 24/1
A'ma M 18/12 31/1

From San Fco.
A'ma M 21/12 31/1

From Seattle
Capillo 30/11 2/1
W C'seta 15/12 6/1
C'wn City — 10/1
C'worth 30/12 21/1

From Manila
P Pierce 30/12 5/1

From Yokohama
Hakone M — 6/1
K'ra M 26/12 6/1
Yawata M — 24/1

From Kobe
Taiyo M 6/1 8/1

From Nagasaki
N'saki M 2/1 3/1

BIRTHS

DOPSON.—On December 28, 1940, at the Country Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. LESLIE DOPSON, a daughter, VIVIEN MARGARET. (Hongkong and North-China papers, please copy.)

FOX.—On December 26, 1940, at the Country Hospital, Shanghai, to Rosemary, wife of S. J. H. Fox, a son (still-born).

KIMBER.—On December 26, 1940, at the Country Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Chas. S. KIMBER, a son.

FOWLER.—On December 27, 1940, at the Country Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. E. FOWLER, a daughter.

MIDDLETON-SMITH.—On December 28, 1940, at the Country Hospital, Shanghai, to ANDREE, wife of J. MIDDLETON-SMITH, a daughter. (Hongkong papers please copy.)

SUTHERLAND.—To Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Sutherland, Singapore, on Xmas Day, a son IAN GEORGE WALTER.

ENGAGEMENT

GROVES—GOODMAN.—The engagement is announced of ARTHUR PERCY GROVES, son of the late A. H. Groves and Mrs. Groves, of West Dulwich, England, and BARBARA (BARRY) DIGBY GOODMAN, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Goodman, of Harbin.

DEATHS

BAKER.—On Friday, December 27, 1940, at the Shanghai General Hospital, GLADYS BAKER (née Fenton), aged 57 years, widow of the late John Baker and mother of Ernest (Hongkong), William, Victoria, Thomas, Robert and Norma Baker, and sister of Mr. George L. Fenton, of Hongkong. (Hongkong papers please copy.)

MEUNIER.—On Tuesday, December 24, 1940, at her home, 48 Hollyheath Estate, JACQUELINE FRANCOISE MEUNIER, aged 17 years, the dearly-beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Meunier and sister of Jeanine and Jacques.

SCHLUPER.—On Wednesday, December 25, 1940, suddenly, PETRUS JOSEPH SCHLUPER, of the Revenue Department, Shanghai Municipal Council, aged 48 years, the dearly-beloved husband of Mrs. Nina Schluper.

IN MEMORIAM

TARBY.—In memory of our gallant son JACK RICHARD, aged 16, who went down with his ship, torpedoed in the North Sea, December 28, 1939.

WEIGALL.—In proud and tender memory of our darling daughter FELICITY, who passed on December 26, 1933, aged 23 years.

SEMPER FIDELIS

Printed and published at the office of the NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS & HERALD, LD. *North-China Building, Shanghai, China.*

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